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TRANSLATIONS ON NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

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PLEA TO EASE MARIHUANA PENALTIES

Sydney THE SYDNEY HERALD in English 31 Mar 77 p 1

[Article by Ian Frykberg, State Political Correspondent]

[Text] The majority of a NSW State Parliamentary Committee has recommended the removal of jail sentences for personal use of marihuana and hashish.

The committee's report, tabled in NSW Parliament yesterday, recommends that first offenders for the use of marihuana and hashish be given "every encouragement" to avoid repetition of the offence by a system of probation and bonds.

A first offender successfully completing conditions of his bond and probation would then be discharged without an offence and the details of the case expunged from the record.

The committee recommends that the existing penalties for trafficking in marihuana and hashish be retained, at least pending a review of the legislation.

But it proposes a \$50,000 fine and/or 15 years jail for trafficking in heroin and other hard drugs.

The existing penalty under NSW legislation for this, and also for trafficking marihuana or hashish, is 10 years jail, or 2 years jail and \$2,000 fine where the prosecution elects to proceed summarily.

The recommendations are contained in a report tabled yesterday from a joint committee of the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council established to report on drugs of dependence in common use in NSW.

The Liberal and Country Party members of the nine-person committee dissented from the personal use of marihuana and hashish recommendation. The other 11 recommendations were unanimous.

They cover increased penalties for hard drug trafficking, an urgent review of existing NSW legislation and increased assistance for and treatment of addicts.

The report does not recommend the legalisation of marihuana and says the existing restrictions on the use of cannabis should be retained.

The report says marihuana and hashish are the most common forms of the drug cannabis in NSW.

It says that possession of cannabis derivatives with intent to make significant profits through sales should incur severe penalties.

Every effort should be made through education and "improvement in the way of life" to discourage the use of drugs such as cannabis for stimulation or satisfaction.

The report says that after considering all evidence it agrees with the finding of the 1971 Senate inquiry that the present state of knowledge of marihuana showed that it was not as dangerous as had been frequently publicised, although hashish was far more potent.

It says: "Although emotions run high between the proponents for and against legalisation of cannabis and claims and counter claims are made by both sides, no irrefutable scientific evidence yet exists to put beyond doubt whether long term use is dangerous to man.

"Neither is there irrefutable evidence to show that it is safe."

The committee comprised Mr Durick (Lab, Lakemba), Mrs K. H. Anderson (MLC, Lab), Mrs M. A. E. Davis (MLC Lab), Mr H. J. A. Sullivan (MLC, CP), Mr J.G.T. Jackett (Lib, Burwood), Mr B. McGowan (Lab, Gosford), Mr E.D. Ramsay (Lab, Wollongong), and Mr R.C.A. Wotton (CP, Burrendong).

Mrs Davis, Mr Jackett and Mr Wotton dissented "strongly" to the personal cannabis use recommendation and Mr Sullivan was ill at the time the decision was made.

The report also proposes that where traffickers of hard drugs cannot pay fines, a provision be included in legislation to attach property as part of the payment of fines.

The report says although there is a growing community mood to help drug addicts, there is a public revulsion against drug traffickers.

"Such people are a menace, they are loathed, and their dealings cannot be tolerated," it says.

The Leader of the Opposition, Sir Eric Willis, said last night that the dissenting views of the Opposition members on the committee coincided with the community view.

"There is no community demand to decriminalise the possession and smoking of marihuana," he said.

"The Opposition fully supports the concept of more humane treatment of offenders but to decriminalise the offence would at least represent tacit government endorsement of the practice."

The Opposition would do everything possible to prevent the government rushing through legislation to implement the personal use of cannabis recommendation.

The attorney general, Mr Walker, said last night any changes to the NSW drug laws were still being worked on and had not been before Cabinet or Caucus.

They were being prepared jointly by himself and the minister for health, Mr Stewart, and no timetable had been set for the introduction of amending legislation.

The committee was established by the previous Liberal Country Party Government but when Labor came to office it expanded its terms of reference in October last year.

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PROTEST LENIENT TREATMENT OF MARIHUANA USERS

NSW Protests Lenient Treatment of Marihuana Users

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 9 Apr 77 p 3

[Text]

The NSW Country Party has started a letter-writing campaign against the more lenient treatment of marihuana smokers.

The party's leader, Mr Punch, said yesterday: "People should protest directly to the State Government."

He was announcing a campaign at all levels of the NSW Country Party's organisation against moves to decriminalise the use of marihuana.

Mr Punch said relaxation of laws on marihuana would be the final step towards legalisation and the first step towards acceptance of harder drugs.

"Only if people register their objection with the Government will the Wran Administration back off from this measure," he said.

"Public pressure in recent months has succeeded in forcing the Government to back down on objectionable features of its Anti-Discrimination Bill, its Death Duties Bill and at least three other major pieces of legislation."

Decriminalisation of the use of marihuana has been recommended by a joint committee of the

Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly.

Liberal and Country Party members of the committee dissented from the recommendation.

Mr Punch said that despite claims that marihuana was relatively harmless, eminent medical authorities maintained that it led to the use of harder drugs.

He said that the Wran Government seemed preoccupied with permissiveness rather than the more important needs of the State.

It had distinguished itself so far by legalising nude beaches, condoning illegal gambling while holding an innocuous inquiry into casinos, delaying action against child pornography and by moving to decriminalise various other offences as well as marihuana.

"Yet the majority of people in both metropolitan and country areas would prefer positive action on rising unemployment and other important issues," Mr Punch said.

"There will be a State-wide backlash if the Government continues to ignore majority needs to pander to dubious minorities, while lowering moral standards in the community."

Editorial Opposes Decriminalizing Marihuana

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 9 Apr 77 p 10

[Text]

IT MAY NOT be long before the State Government decides whether or not to introduce legislation "decriminalising" the use of marihuana in NSW. Sensing this, the Country Party leader, Mr Punch, has urged the public to protest directly to the Government against any such move. Unhappily, he has chosen to represent the proposal in terms of "permissiveness" and has coupled it with such matters as nude beaches, an inquiry into casinos and lack of action on child pornography. The prospect is, therefore, that reason will be at a discount in the coming debate, and nothing could be more undesirable in dealing with an exceedingly complex problem involving sharp differences of opinion.

The argument is not about legalisation which Mr Wran has firmly ruled out, but about decriminalisation — that is, treating the use of marihuana as a misdemeanour and not a crime. Lesser penalties such as fines, bonds or compulsory treatment would replace prison sentences. (Mr Punch, however, argues that decriminalisation would be a step towards legalising the drug.) How prevalent, then — in defiance of the law as it stands — is the use of marihuana in Australia? The 1971 Senate Select Committee on Drug Trafficking and Drug Abuse found evidence indicating that it was the most widely used of the illegal drugs. Later evidence confirms this.

The Senate committee said it was "clear" that cannabis use was spread through all sectors of society from young experimenters to professional groups. In 1975, an NSW Health Commission study found that between 4 and 9 per cent of the general population might have used cannabis at some stage, and that between 11 and 20 per cent of young people in Sydney and Melbourne might have used it (though only once or twice in the case of about half this latter group). Bureau of Crime Statistics figures show that prosecutions of users and pushers of cannabis have accounted for most offences against the Poisons Act since 1971 (81.9 per cent of all offences in

wondered why the NSW Government seems to be in such a hurry. The fact remains that medical and scientific opinion is by no means unanimous on the harmfulness or otherwise of marihuana.

It is hard to go past what the 1971 Senate committee said of cannabis: "No irrefutable scientific evidence yet exists to put beyond doubt whether long-term use is dangerous to man. In the absence of this knowledge the delights of its use appear to be overrated by those who use it and its dangers similarly exaggerated by those who seek to maintain its prohibition." Since then, there has been much more research, but still somewhat inconclusive, and a comment by the Senate Standing Committee on Health and Welfare in 1975 still has force: "The committee cautions against legislative action which cannot be substantiated by thorough research."

Many people remain deeply and legitimately disturbed at the strong indications that, whatever may be thought of the effects of cannabis itself, it is dangerous because it can lead its users on to other indisputably deleterious drugs. And those who say that cannabis itself is "harmless" do not take account of the mounting evidence that its use can cause road accidents. In evidence before the Senate Social Welfare Committee last week, the Director of the Alcoholics and Drug Dependent Persons Services in Victoria, Dr Gerald Milner, said there was very reliable evidence to indicate that people who used marihuana and drove were a major road risk. One American study showed that of 710 fatally injured drivers, 38 per cent had been in contact with cannabis. A Canadian study showed that cannabis users had nearly as many accidents under the influence of cannabis as they did under the influence of alcohol.

Dr Milner said studies had also shown that cannabis had a much stronger effect than alcohol on drivers' estimation of time and distance. "An ordinary sort of intoxicating dose of cannabis produced

prosecutions of users and pushers of cannabis have accounted for most offences against the Poisons Act since 1971 (81.9 per cent of all offences in 1975).

How reasonable is this concentration on cannabis offenders in the light of agreement by both the 1971 Senate committee and (in 1976) by the NSW Health Commission that the drug abuse problems of Australia, "in respect of the extent and seriousness of their abuse," are (in this order): alcohol and tobacco; barbiturates, bromides and other sedatives; minor analgesics (such as aspirin); cannabis; amphetamine; opiates; LSD? Certainly our magistrates seem inclined to leniency, for in 1975 in NSW more than 90 per cent of all charged with offences related to cannabis were either fined, placed on probation or had the charges dismissed as a result of court action.

By May, 1976, eight American States had enacted legislation decriminalising cannabis, and 25 others were considering similar action. President Carter and Vice-President Mondale both favour decriminalisation. So do such bodies as the American Bar Association, the American Public Health Association, the governing board of the American Medical Association, the National Council of Churches and the National Education Association. The same conclusion has been reached by the influential National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse (the Shafer Commission, 1973). In Canada, the Le Dain Report of 1973 also came out in favour of decriminalisation.

In all this the NSW Government can find arguments for decriminalisation. But the real weight of the arguments is open to doubt. Experience abroad is not necessarily a good guide, for the simple reason that conditions as well as approaches differ from society to society. It may be that the North American States would have taken a different stand had their drug problems been at the stage they are in NSW. It may well be

that cannabis had a much stronger effect than alcohol on drivers' estimation of time and distance. "An ordinary sort of intoxicating dose of cannabis produced more disturbing effects than a moderately intoxicating dose of alcohol," he said. "There is a whole range of studies which indicate that cannabis is likely to be a hazard for road users. It is particularly because of the effect on driving that I am averse to any move which would tend to increase cannabis use in our society."

There are other objections. Australia is a signatory to the 1961 United Nations Convention on Narcotic Drugs (the Single Convention), and presumably NSW is bound by it. One of its provisions is that "serious offences involving narcotics are required to be punishable by adequate penalties, particularly by imprisonment." And cannabis and heroin are listed in the first schedule. This may well be wrong (as the 1971 Senate committee said it was) and may have to be changed, but the change will not come quickly. Why not wait till it does?

In Australia, which has been not unfairly described as a drug-oriented society, there are many socially accepted drugs which, when abused, are demonstrably harmful. Is there really a good case for adding yet another to the list? Presumably the Government thinks so. In that case it should explain why, after the widespread controversy of recent years, cannabis is still listed as a "drug of addiction" in Schedule 8 of the NSW Poisons Act, 1966. Does the Poisons Advisory Committee still hold to this classification? What advice has it tendered to the State Government? The public should be told about this if it is to be properly informed. Meanwhile it should be plainly stated that no convincing case for a relaxation of action to discourage the use of this drug has been made out. Commonsense suggests that any relaxation must have the effect of increasing drug usage and it surely cannot be maintained that this is anything but undesirable.

AUSTRALIA

HEROIN MEN GET TWO YEARS

Melbourne THE AGE in English 30 Mar 77 p 11

[Text] Two men, involved in importing heroin worth more than half a million dollars were sentenced yesterday to 2 years' jail.

The Crown prosecutor, Mr Michael Tovey, told Judge Stabley in the County Court that the 32 ounces of heroin involved was 93 percent pure.

Graeme John Hannel, 25, computer programmer, of Silver Ash Avenue, Ashwood and Ross Gregory Davidson, 29, fisherman, of Dandenong Road, Frankston, both pleaded guilty to having been knowingly concerned in the importation of heroin on or about 16 May last year.

Mr Fred James, counsel for Hannel, told the court Hannel was apprehended on 9 December last year and had decided to stay in jail to break his addiction to heroin.

He said that last year Hannel and three others went to South-East Asia to get a quantity of the drug.

Hannel's father, Mr L. G. Hannel, general manager, of Silver Ash Avenue, Ashwood, agreed with Mr James that his son and Davidson had been importing items from South-East Asia for sale, including jewelry and footwear.

Mr Frank Vincent, counsel for Davidson, said that after four albums containing heroin had been put in the roof of a Frankston house for safekeeping, Davidson drove to Queensland to try to get away from heroin.

He said Davidson had developed a fairly substantial heroin habit and had used it four times a day.

After being intercepted by police at Coffs Harbor, Davidson was brought back to Melbourne. He decided to stay in the remand yard at Pentridge rather than be bailed out to prove he could go without heroin for a substantial period.

AUSTRALIA

WHITELEY'S WIFE ILL AFTER DRUG ARREST

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 5 Apr 77 p 1

[Text] The wife of prize-winning Australian artist Brett Whiteley was unconscious in hospital yesterday after being arrested at Perth airport and charged with possessing heroin.

Mrs Wendy Whiteley was also accused of having illegally tried to take thousands of dollars in cash out of the country.

She was stopped by Commonwealth Police at Perth's international terminal on Saturday night while on her way to London to meet her husband, who is arranging an exhibition of his work.

After a detailed search of her baggage they took away a substance which they sent to be analysed and some cash.

Mrs Whiteley was due to appear yesterday in Midland Court, Perth, to face the two charges, but was too ill.

A spokesman at the Aston Hospital in Perth said she was under heavy sedation. It was not known when she would be well enough to appear in court.

"She is unconscious at the moment," the spokesman said. "She has been given strong tranquilisers and it is impossible to say when she will be fit enough to be allowed to answer the charges."

Whiteley, 38, in January became the first artist to win both the Archibald and Sulman Prizes in the same year.

After the arrest police in Sydney raided the Whiteley home in Lavender Bay. It was here that Whiteley, known as the "precocious superstar" of Australian art, painted the huge canvas that won him this year's Archibald.

The painting showed his face reflected in a hand mirror surrounded by the interior of his home and the view of the harbor and Harbor Bridge from the window.

The chief Commonwealth Police officer for Western Australia, Superintendent R. McCabe, said yesterday Mrs Whiteley had been an overseas passenger travelling through Perth airport.

She had been granted bail, but he did not know if she had been released from police custody before being admitted to hospital.

Mrs Whiteley was to have been met in London yesterday morning by her mother-in-law Mrs Beryl Whiteley, her husband and their 11-year-old daughter Arki, who is studying drama.

Mrs Beryl Whiteley said at her home in London yesterday Brett had gone to visit friends in the country.

"The news that my daughter-in-law has been arrested comes as a complete surprise to me," she said.

She was still waiting to hear the full facts from Perth.

"We know Wendy was taken to hospital, but we don't know her condition," she said, "Brett knows about it but won't make any comment until we know more.

"He does not know enough to make a comment," she added.



MALAYSIA

DEPUTY LAW MINISTER: NEED FOR GLOBAL LAWS ON DRUGS

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 19 Apr 77 p 5 BK

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Mon.--There is a worldwide need for tough legal measures against drug trafficking, Deputy Law Minister Encik Rais Yatim said today.

He said as long as areas of "legal retreats" were in existence directly or indirectly connected with international trade, efforts to fight the drug problem would remain peripheral and minimal in effect.

"The menace simply has to be suppressed at all costs and at all channels," he told 40 participants from 11 countries attending a week-long conference of the International Drug Enforcement Association at the Holiday Inn here.

He said the drug problem, being global and saddling a multitude of the young, must necessarily receive proportionate international concern and cooperation.

"Sufficient understanding of the widespread nature of drug abuse should thus preoccupy government and international bodies.

"The menace simply has to be suppressed, and one of the immediate actions necessary to bring about a uniformed approach in the international or regional communities is for a sufficiently tough set of legal sanctions to be meted out against international traffickers."

He said international and regional cooperation should be systematic and coordinated, taking into account each region's specific and particular needs.

"For enforcement work to be effective, the relay of information, training facilities and curriculum have to be identified with local surroundings."

Encik Rais said the drug problem could not be tackled in isolation as it recognised no frontiers--cultural, economic or geographical.

"The ASEAN countries are aware of this, and will cooperate with one another in all spheres of drug enforcement."

He said this cooperation includes exchange of information on drug trafficking, investigation techniques, training, legislation, and drug abuse prevention and rehabilitation.

He said the decision to cooperate was a vital step in the improvement of drug enforcement.

Encik Rais also said Malaysia stood in the way of one of the world's major drug trafficking routes.

"While we have had a drug problem--the opium--for almost a century, the problem is now much more devastating.

"The government and public is aware of the consequences the heroin problem poses to the individual, family and society."

Encik Rais hoped the participants would get to know one another and hence facilitate international investigations to combat the "evil, multifaceted problem."

CSO: 5300 .

MALAYSIA

MALAYSIAN PAPER ON UNCOVERING OF COMMUNIST DRUG LABORATORY

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 21 Apr 77 p 12 BK

[Editorial: "Drug Weapon"]

[Text] The uncovering of a communist terrorist operated narcotics processing unit and supply network was among the achievements of the recently concluded joint Malaysian-Thai Dao Yai-Musnah II operation, which smashed their 26-year-old sanctuary in Sadao District, south Thailand, bordering Malaysia. Six pounds of heroin with a black market value of \$100,000, more than 200 packaging tubes and some equipment were recovered in a hut which had been turned into a processing laboratory. The terrorists had, however, dismantled most of the equipment because of the offensive and also removed some items before the troops moved in. The first direct proof of communist involvement in the drug trade, it showed that they are behind some of the narcotics organisations and are resorting to the use of drugs as a means of overthrowing the democratic system and destroying the people. As a result of the security force success, it is believed that one of the main drug supply links from the north has been cut.

Realisation among the ASEAN countries that the drug problem, which recognises no frontiers, cannot be tackled in isolation, has led to their cooperation with one another in all spheres of drug enforcement. This includes exchange of information on drug trafficking, investigation methods, training, legislation, and drug prevention and rehabilitation. Such cooperation assumes greater urgency in the light of the communists' part in the trade. In this connection, Deputy Law Minister Rais Yatim's call for tough worldwide legal measures against drug trafficking at the current International Drug Enforcement Association conference here, attended by 40 participants from 11 nations, is timely. It is only with the elimination of "legal retreats" directly or indirectly connected with the international traffic that efforts to fight the drug problem will be effective.

CSO: 5300

GROWING INVOLVEMENT OF ASIAN COMMUNISTS IN DRUG TRADE

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 30 Mar 77 p 6

[Article by Alan Dawson]

[Text] International narcotics agents are becoming increasingly concerned about growing involvement in the drug trade by Asian communists.

North Korea, China, Laos and the 12,000 insurgents of the Communist Party of Burma all appear to be involved to some extent in providing narcotics from the Golden Triangle region to the streets of Asia, Europe and America.

The subject is so sensitive that even those European and Asian agents who openly discuss drug rings refuse all official requests for information on the subject. "It's just too political to discuss," said one.

But international narcotics sources in Bangkok and elsewhere have provided this partial picture of official communist involvement in the heroin and opium trades:

Laos has covertly gathered about 30 tons of opium in the former warehouses of the U.S. Agency for International Development in Vientiane. The guarded gates of the ex-American compound now have signs proclaiming it is "the office of the prime minister," although he is known to work elsewhere.

Agents of the Communist Party of Burma grow opium poppies, help refine heroin and provide guards for opium and heroin convoys.

China recently agreed to provide citizenship to at least three well known Sino-Thai drug dealers, all on the "most wanted" list of the International Police (Interpol) through the powerful Chinese embassy in Vientiane.

North Korea's ambassador to Vientiane and other Korean field agents are believed to have gathered opium, morphine and heroin shipments from the Golden Triangle region for their own distribution system.

The North Koreans are known to use diplomatic pouches and baggage of diplomats to transport the drugs to Europe. Intelligence agents said Moscow once was used as a distribution point by the North Koreans, but the Russians attempted to halt that when they found out.

Since then, North Korean diplomats have been expelled from countries in Western and Eastern Europe and the Middle East for involvement in drug, cigarette and liquor smuggling. The proceeds, intelligence officers believe, go to supporting each North Korean embassy and buying political advertisements in European and American newspapers.

The communist government in Laos has made opium growing legal for its hill tribesmen. Officially, the opium must be sold to the government, but there is no practical way to enforce such sales in most of the country.

Laos has shipped at least a ton of opium to Hanoi recently for use in making pharmaceuticals, agents say.

But both the huge amount stored in Vientiane and an estimated 100 tons or more which apparently has been sold to international drug rings pose a major potential supply to Europe and America.

Trying to cut any communist connection in the international heroin traffic "will make breaking the French connection look like child's play," an Asian diplomat said.

Most narcotics rings in the past have been controlled by European, American or ethnic Chinese businessmen-criminals, other agents said.

"But if the communists are involved, you can be sure it's government policy," said one agent. "That means it's a political problem first, and the criminal aspects are secondary." The United States, with more than 25 agents assigned to Thailand, has more drug enforcement officials in Asia than any other nation. But Canada, a growing number of European countries and some Asian nations all cooperate in the anti-heroin struggle.

Burma, the largest source of illegal opium in the world, cooperates in the fight because opium money is channelled in to buy arms for anti-Rangoon insurgents. The insurgents, including the communists and a number of ethnic minorities, control the opium fields.

In the 1950s and early 1960s, the U.S. Bureau of Narcotics maintained that Asian communists were behind drug smuggling from the Golden Triangle area. That theory was dropped along with the cold war.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

DRUG LINE CUT OFF WITH UNCOVERING OF RED LAB

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 20 Apr 77 p 1 BK

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Tues.--The main drug supply link from the north has been cut off with the uncovering of a communist terrorist heroin processing laboratory in southern Thailand recently, sources said today.

According to the sources there has been a great shortage of heroin particularly in Kuala Lumpur since the capture of the heroin laboratory in early April by joint Thai-Malaysian forces during their operation Dao Yai-Musnah II offensive.

Sources said: "We are sure that the main supply of heroin comes from the captured heroin.

"There is indication that the narcotics peddlers are now moving further north to process their drugs. They may now have to rely on the golden triangle."

He said the capture gave direct evidence that communist terrorists were involved in the narcotics trade linking Malaysia.

The sources added that because of the drug shortage of heroin in Kuala Lumpur, at least 100 drug addicts have approached the authorities for help recently.

"Because of this shortage, a highly adulterated form of heroin is circulating around Kuala Lumpur. The addicts are not used to this stuff and thus they have come forward for help.

"We are pleased with this success and hope that many more addicts will approach the authorities for help."

A hut converted into a heroin lab was found in the communist sanctuary 8 km west of Sadao on 6 April. The joint forces also seized 6 pounds of the drug worth about \$100,000 on the black market.

The terrorists had dismantled most of the equipment because of the offensive and also removed some of the items before the troops moved in.

BRIEFS

DRUG ABUSE, REHABILITATION FIGURES--Kuala Lumpur, April 27 (AFP)--About 26,000 people in Malaysia are known to be involved with drugs either as addicts or pushers, the director of the Central Narcotics Bureau Mr Mohamed Jarjis said here today. Of these, 11,249 persons are being rehabilitated in government-run centres, hospitals and prisons, he added. He said it was interesting to note that there has been a tremendous increase in the number of drug addicts who had volunteered to receive treatment. Mr Jarjis was speaking to newsmen on the theme of a 6-week exhibition to be held in Kuala Lumpur from 6 May to 16 June. He said the main purpose of the exhibition was to inform the people, especially parents, of the dangers of drugs and causes of addiction. During the exhibition three drug addicts will publicly confess their habits, relating the reasons why they resorted to drugs and how they feel after rehabilitation. [Text] [Hong Kong AFP in English 0735 GMT 27 Apr 77 BK]

POLICE SMASH DRUG LABORATORY--Kulim, Wed.--Police have smashed a drug laboratory. About 11 kg (about 24 lb) of heroin was seized and three men arrested in Kampung Daraluman here yesterday evening. A six-man party led by the deputy OCPD [Officer in Charge of Police Department], acting ASP [Assistant Superintendent of Police] Tang Yau Hie also seized six earthen stoves and frying pans, test tubes and other apparatus used to process heroin. The drug--in eight plastic packets--could have fetched about \$1.5 million on the black market abroad, and could have been reduced to more than 2 million shots. The heroin was believed to have been just prepared from opium when police moved in. The stoves were still burning and some drugs were recovered from the pans. Kulim OCPD Deputy Supt Raja Lope Bin Razman said police raided an uninhabited wooden house believed to have been used as a laboratory in Jalan Beunga Tanjung at about 6 pm yesterday after more than a month of intensive investigation. They entered through the back door which was left unlocked and surprised three men who were processing the drug. The suspects aged between 32 and 50 are believed to be members of a well-organized syndicate. One is suspected to be the mastermind. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 21 Apr 77 p 1 BK]

LOTTERY FOR ANTIDRUG PLANS--Kuala Lumpur, Wed.--The National Association Against Drug Abuse (PEMADAM) will launch a lottery in June to raise funds

to finance its projects, Deputy Law Minister Encik Rais Yatim said today. The lottery will be launched by Prime Minister Datuk Hussein Onn. "Shortage of rehabilitation centres and money are the two major problems faced by PEMADAM," said Encik Rais, who is its president. He received a gift of beds, mattresses and pillows from Datuk Syed Nahar Shahabuddin of United Malayin Insurance at the help centre in Bukit Petaling here today. The donation was worth \$3,000. He said this was the second public gift to the centre and hoped more donations would be received from firms. Encik Rais said PEMADAM was expanding its present dormitory at the centre here to absorb more inmates. About 130 inmates would arrive from Batu Gajah for their final rehabilitation programmes. An officer from the Welfare Ministry would supervise and coordinate all stages of the rehabilitation, he said. "The inmates will stay at the centre from 6 months to a year depending on their progress." He said there were 125 people undergoing treatment in all rehabilitation centres and 158 in PEMADAM centres. At least 20 of the inmates were government servants, he added. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 21 Apr 77 p 5 BK]

DRUG ADDICT REHABILITATION--The National Association Against Drug Abuse is to step up its effort to establish branches in every district in Peninsular Malaysia. Its secretary general said that at the same time efforts would be made to set up more rehabilitation centers. The association now has 34 branches. Rehabilitation centers have been set up in Bukit Petaling, Batu Gajah, Bukit Mertajam, Kuala Kubu Baharu and Johor Baharu. [Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 23 Apr 77 BK]

HEROIN ARREST--Kuala Lumpur, April 25 (AFP)--A 21-year old Swedish woman, Annica Larsson, was among five persons charged with possession of two tubes of heroin in the sessions court here today. Miss Larsson, who claimed trial, was detained pending mention of the case on 3 June. The four others, all Malaysians, jointly charged with her pleaded guilty. They were allowed bail of Malaysian \$500 (U.S. \$200) in one surety pending sentence. The prosecuting officer objected to bail for Miss Larsson on the ground that she might escape from the country. [Text] [Hong Kong AFP in English 1209 GMT 25 Apr 77 BK]

CHILDREN AND DRUG DANGERS--Kuala Lumpur, Sat.--Mothers should make their children realise the dangers of drug abuse, Information Minister Dato Amar Haji Taib Mahmud said today. He was opening a 3-day seminar organised by the MIC [Malaysian Indian Congress] Selangor women's section at the Dewan Toh Puan Rahah here. He said the problem of drug abuse should be tackled at children's level. He added that development would be affected if the drug problem was not eradicated. "We need the support of everyone to ensure the success of our efforts, and the people should play a positive role in attaining this goal." [Excerpt] [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 24 Apr 77 p 11 BK]

ODD-JOB MAN GETS 3 YEARS--Malacca, Sat.--Odd-job worker Aziz Bin Hamzah, 42, was jailed today for 3 years and fined \$1,000 or 9 months jail when he

pleaded guilty to possession of 28 tubes of heroin. Sessions court President Augustine Paul was told Aziz, who had five previous convictions, had committed the offence at a house in Jalan Kubu on 24 Nov 1975. Woman ASP [Assistant Superintendent Police] Emily Koshy, prosecuting, said a police party headed by inspector Mat Drus raided a house in Jalan Kubu and found Aziz, his wife and another woman. On seeing the police, his wife slipped a cigarette packet through a hole in the floor. Police recovered the packet and found it contained 28 tubes of heroin. Aziz admitted ownership. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 24 Apr 77 p 11 BK]

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT SET ASIDE--Kuala Lumpur, Fri.--The High Court has revised a whipping sentence on a 60-year-old fisherman convicted for having drugs. The man, Lau Kean, was sentenced to 3 years' jail and ordered to receive six strokes of the rotan, when he pleaded guilty at the Klang sessions court in February to possessing 38.88 gm of morphine. Mr Justice Abdul Hamid called up the case for revision today and set aside the whipping sentence. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 23 Apr 77 p 5 BK]

FINE FOR HEROIN STRAW--Kuala Lumpur, Fri.--Ooi Cheng Chiew, 27, was jailed for 1 day and fined \$1,000, in default 6 months jail, when he pleaded guilty to having a straw of heroin at the Selangor Turf Club on 12 Feb. He said in mitigation that he was currently being treated at the Batu Gajah rehabilitation centre for drug addicts. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 23 Apr 77 p 24 BK]

HEROIN BUNDLE FOUND--Alor Star, Fri.--Customs seized 4.4 lbs of heroin worth more than \$200,000 from bushes along the Alor Star western bypass near the Tongkang Yard here last night. Head of the Kedah-Perlis customs preventive branch Senior Supt Charern Intachat said today the seizure was made after a tip-off. No arrests were made. Mr Charern said a seven-member party led by Asst Supt Zanzabir Abidin took up positions near the Tongkang Yard at about 9:30 pm. The suspected car however failed to show up. After more than 2 hours, the officers searched the area and found a bundle among the bushes. The bundle contained four small plastic packets filled with heroin. Customs sources believe the drug was smuggled in by sea. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 23 Apr 77 p 24 BK]

PREMIER SPEAKS ABOUT DRUGS--Kuala Lumpur, April 22 (AFP)--Three women, believed to be prostitutes, smuggled 6.45 million dollars (U.S. \$2.58 million) worth of heroin into the Malaysian International Shipping Corporation vessel, Bunga Melor, when it docked in Bangkok. This was confirmed by INTERPOL after the drug was discovered on board the ship in Cardiff, Wales, the prime minister, Datuk Hussein Bin Onn, told the senate today. INTERPOL investigations did not find any evidence that the drug came from Malaysia, he added in reply to Senator Chua Ching Cheng. Datuk Hussein said the Bunga Melor arrived in Port Klang from Bangkok on 28 Jan and later sailed for Spain on 1 Feb from Penang. The ship was detained in Cardiff on 26 Feb with 12 kilos of heroin on board. A Malaysian crew member had been arrested while two others were being detained for investigation. [Text] [Hong Kong AFP in English 1204 GMT 22 Apr 77 BK]

MASTER REPORT--The National Association Against Drug Abuse (Pemadam) is compiling a master report on drug abuse in the country. Pemadam secretary-general Syed Abdul Rahman Noh said today the association decided to compile the report because it was important to know the exact extent of drug abuse. The report will include the number of deaths caused by drug taking. "Several surveys have been carried out by various departments like the Customs, police, Central Narcotics Bureau and voluntary organizations but no overall picture was given." Syed Abdul Rahman said Pemadam was in the process of collecting data for the report. It hopes to complete it by the end of the year. [Excerpts] [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 12 Mar 77 p 9]

KUCHING ARRESTS--A young man caught in a car park with heroin told how he obtained it from a Singaporean seaman off the mv Perak. Razali bin Boeng, 22, was arrested after waiting police had seen him speaking to three men in a car. Razali rode up on a motor-bike and soon after a car carrying the three men arrived. When Razali was seen speaking to them, the police pounced. Razali tried to escape, and in the process threw away a matchbox which was found to contain three tubes of a powdery substance. It was later confirmed as being heroin, Razali telling the police that he had bought four tubes of it from the seaman on April 22 [1976], at \$7 a tube. Razali, of Datuk Abijah Abol Road, was jailed for eight months. [Excerpts] [Kuala Belait BORNEO BULLETIN in English 19 Mar 77 p 3] There will be a July 26 court date for Haron Salleh bin Haji Kassim, 31, charged with possessing 51 tubes of heroin. Haron, of Jalan Sungai Maong Tengah, was charged with having 2.623 grammes of the drug at a house on January 27. He has been released on \$1000 bail. In another case, an unemployed youth is to appear next Thursday for suspected possession of dangerous drugs, thought to be heroin and MX pills. Szali bin Haji Morshidi, 19, of Datus Road No 1, was arrested last week in Mosque Road. [Excerpts] [Kuala Belait BORNEO BULLETIN in English 26 Mar 77 p 12]

PENINSULAR MALAYSIA ARRESTS--Ninety-five drug traffickers were sent to Pulau Jerajak last year compared with 66 in 1975. A total of 4,851 drug pushers were detained last year and 3,068 in 1974 [1975?]. Last year, police successively recovered 46.94 kg of heroin, enough to provide nearly 10 million shots, 6.77 kg of morphine, enough to give more than 500,000 doses, 211.41 kg of candu [opium] and 50.76 kg of ganja [marihuana]. [Excerpt] [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 26 Mar 77 p 26]

MORE COOPERATION NEEDED--The National Association Against Drug Abuse (Pemadam) is to work toward establishing greater co-operation among Asean countries against drug traffickers. Deputy Law Minister, Encik Rais Yatim, said there was already some degree of co-operation in this matter but Pemadam felt much more could be achieved through better liaison with bodies similar to Pemadam in other countries. Encik Rais said it was vitally important that drugs were prevented from entering the country and a close watch was being kept on tourists to Malaysia. [Excerpts] [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 8 Mar 77 p 9]

LIFE SENTENCE--The Special Sessions Court sentenced painter Tan See Chin, 29, to life imprisonment today and also ordered that he be given three strokes of the rotan for trafficking in drugs. Tan was found guilty of trafficking in three packets of heroin weighing 7.99 grammes at house No. 26, Jalan Beremi, off Jalan Bukit Bintang at about 5.30 pm last Nov. 7. Special Sessions Court president Puan Siti Normah Yaacob said she had no alternative but to sentence Tan to life imprisonment as it was mandatory. Tan in his defence said he was a drug addict and consumed 40 small tubes of heroin a day. He said that before his arrest he had been taking drugs for about eight years. [Excerpt] [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 8 Mar 77 p 9]

CSO: 5300

SOUTHEAST ASIA'S DRUG PROBLEMS

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 22, 24, 25 Jan & 5, 7 Feb 77

[Series of articles by Tony Garnier]

[22Jan 77, p 2]

[Text]

The first in a series of five articles by TONY GARNIER examining South-east Asia's massive drug problem. Mr Garnier, the "Post's" political correspondent, is abroad as holder of the Mobil Overseas Award in Journalism. Today, reporting from Kuala Lumpur, he sets the scene, gives statistics and examines political concern. In the second article, on Monday, he will look at what Singapore is doing to solve its drug problem.

THE DOMINO THEORY is still alive and well in South-east Asia.

The theory is no longer used to explain the fall of one country after another as the so-called "yellow peril" or Peking-based communists supposedly over-run the region to threaten the security of Australia and New Zealand.

Rather, it is being used to describe a rapidly spreading tangle of personal misery, family and social upheaval, subversion, corruption and pure "greed" sweeping the region through the use of the drug heroin.

Every stratum of society — businesses, the Government service and schools — has been affected.

It is obvious that New Zealand (and Australia), will have a massive problem on

its hands if preventive measures recently launched by the Governments of Malaysia and Singapore fail.

Indeed, some local authorities say that as the war against heroin manufacture, trafficking and addiction heats up, the drug syndicates are already seeking new trading areas.

"New Zealand has nothing to be complacent about," said one narcotics chief.

The rapid and recent increase in the scale of heroin use in South-east Asia is clearly seen through statistics.

Five years ago heroin was mainly a drug that was trafficked in transit through Singapore to Europe and the United States from Thailand.

In 1972 four persons were arrested in Singapore for suspected heroin offences.

This increased to 10 in 1973 and 110 in 1974.

In 1975 it jumped to 2263, and in the first six months of last year 2284 persons were arrested for suspected heroin offences.

There are an estimated 8000 addicts in Singapore, mainly aged between 14 and 25 years, "hooked" in the last two years. Singapore has a population of 2,200,000. Malaysia's problem appears much worse.

Authorities claim that of its 12,000,000 people, 150,000 are heroin addicts.

Newspapers have recently become full of drug stories and each day of the week of my visit question time in Parliament was dominated by the topic.

Police and a recently formed Malaysian narcotics squad are particularly active. In the last six months of 1976, police conducted 250 drug raids, detained 2500 addicts and seized about 10lb of heroin.

In the past 18 months police busted 15 drug pushing syndicates and the squad has cracked three international syndicates using Malaysia as a distribution area for the world market.

A United Nations survey indicates that about 22,680kg (50,000lb) of heroin is annually being trafficked into Malaysia from Thailand.

Clearly, the police are merely scratching the surface of the problem.

At the level of rehabilitation of addicts, Malaysia has some massive problems to overcome.

In recognition of the scale of the task ahead, the Government last year established a Cabinet sub-committee under the deputy Prime Minister.

The decision followed revelations in a University of Malaysia survey among secondary schools (full details of which have not been released).

The survey showed that 12 percent of the 16,166 secondary pupils interviewed admitted using heroin. For every pupil who admitted using the drug another five expressed interest in trying it.

In one sample from Penang — considered one of the worst affected areas — of 1500 interviewed, 238 said they had used heroin, compared with 288 who admitted to smoking cigarettes.

Other statistics indicate that 120 government servants are presently undergoing drug rehabilitation. There are uninformed reports that police (low rank) and armed forces personnel have been addicted.

Certainly, the drug problem has been in the region for years.

But until seven years ago it mainly consisted of elderly Chinese smoking opium in the many dens found in the urban areas.

Then in 1969 doctors in both Singapore and Malaysia publicly warned of an increasing usage of heroin among young people. At the time the doctors were reported as "alarmists."

Five milligrams of heroin is sufficient to produce a personality change, reducing a user to a conviving, shivering wreck within hours if he or she misses their daily dosage.

[24 Jan 77, p 2]

[Text]

THE CHINESE "Year of the Dragon," 1976, has already been recorded by locals as the most unfavourable there has ever been for Singapore's 8000-plus heroin addicts.

The Year of the Serpent, 1977, seems likely to be worse.

A sharp rise in the use of heroin in 1975, specially by youngsters including the sons and daughters of prosperous Chinese families, effectively ended a debate on what should be done to end the problem.

In a remarkable expression of consensus, Singaporeans (social workers, doctors, educationalists, and in particular, lawyers and police and, as far as it is possible to assess, parents) are united in the belief that "where social

Authorities in both countries now agree that they are facing a problem of epidemic-like proportions. They are specially concerned over the political implications.

Singapore's Minister of Home Affairs and Education (Mr Chua Sian Chin) claims there are indications of a communist plan to use narcotics to corrupt and soften the peoples of the various states in the region for the purposes of subversion and eventual takeover.

In fact this happened in South Vietnam, being a major factor leading to its eventual collapse, he says.

"Drug addiction became rampant and uncontrollable. It not only sapped the spirit of the soldiers to fight but also undermined their fitness. Thus from the very onset they had no chance at all despite their superiority in fire-power, military hardware and sophisticated gadgetry," believes Mr Chua.

Malaysia's Law Minister (Mr Tan Sri Kadir) relates his country's present drug problem directly back to the Vietnam war.

In 1968 United States troops fighting in Vietnam began visiting Malaysia for "rest and recreation."

It soon became the "in" thing for local Malaysians to copy the Americans in terms

of their dress, manners, films, music and drugs. Now the drug problem cuts all socio-economic groups.

However, Mr Tan believes that drugs by itself won't bring down Malaysia. But he is convinced that it is a significant factor in present subversive disturbances and specially a rash of large bank robberies occurring daily.

Underlying the political subversion and exploitation of the young, the major reason for large quantities of heroin being pushed is the profit motive.

In this context south-east Asia's drug problem is being fuelled for gain by both communist and capitalist elements.

A leading politician of the region recently had this to say on the involvement of the two ideologies in the region's affairs: "when two elephants fight it is the mouse deer which is the victim. However, it is even more dangerous when the two make love as all the grass will be trampled upon. There is danger should two rival super-powers with almost similar ideologies collude."

He did not elaborate. But there is clearly widespread concern that south-east Asia is still regarded by the super-powers as an arena for big-power conflict, with heroin as one of the weapons.

persuasions and precepts fail, the full impact of the legal sanctions must apply without compunction."

The invariable explanation is that Singapore is a city State of 2,200,000 people crammed onto an island of 593sq k (229sq m) (about the size of the Auckland isthmus), where a person's value is measured by what he can contribute to the economy.

If 8000 people are not working, they are a drain on the prosperity of the rest of the community.

Consequently, the freedom of the individual to do his own thing comes a distant second to a responsibility to contribute to an economic unit.

Drug addiction has grown to a level that many believe the very fibre of Singapore's lifestyle and values have become threatened. In the words of the Minister of Home Affairs and Education (Mr Chua Sian Chin) "an all-out war" to break the backbone of the island's drug problem has been launched.

Measures introduced last year included:

● Making the death penalty mandatory for trafficking heroin and morphine in excess of 15 and 30 grams respectively. In the first year seven death sentences were passed and 21 others charged with trafficking await trial.

● Amending legislation to permit the director of the Central Narcotics Bureau to bypass the Courts and send direct to a drug rehabilitation centre any person who fails a urine test (as New Zealanders may fall a

blood test on the way to facing a drinking and driving charge).

● Establishing a new drug rehabilitation centre based on "cold turkey" techniques, where an addict must stay a minimum of six months.

● Making aftercare compulsory for two years after discharge from the drug centre.

● Enlisting and training part-time counsellors from the ranks of those serving compulsory military training (which lasts two years) to help at the drug rehabilitation centre and with aftercare.

● Launching a massive campaign for volunteer social workers and funds from the top strata of Singapore society, the first-ever effort of this type since the Second World War.

In addition, amending legislation is in the pipeline to give professional social workers powers to conduct urine tests on those on aftercare following discharge from the drug rehabilitation centre. The aim here is to provide means of detecting any return to using heroin.

In 1973, when drug rehabilitation began in Singapore, methods of "social persuasion," not too dissimilar to those used in New Zealand, were attempted. A centre was opened on nearby St John's Island with the object of keeping addicts from drugs and out of reach of suppliers.

As Mr Chua described it, addicts went through a daily routine "not unlike that of a holiday camp." Those heavily addicted were given the non-physically addictive drug, methadone, in decreasing dosage to help them through the periods of pain and craving that occurred as they supposedly dried out.

However, in 2½ years of operation 80 percent of those who left the island were soon back, addicted. Also, as has happened elsewhere, a tendency developed for addicts short of funds to volunteer as patients so as to make use of the drugs offered under the replacement therapy.

St John's Island has been closed. Since April addicts have been sent to a former army camp, Telok Paku, where instead of replacement therapy they now get "cold turkey" for the first 14 days.

The process occurs in two specially constructed "padded" cell blocks. Addicts are stripped of everything and given no medication, having

to withstand incredible pain, twitching, shaking, sweating, vomiting, abdominal cramps and, in some cases, severe hallucinations.

As phrased by a senior social worker: "The aim is simply to allow the drug addict to fight his way through withdrawal and in the process experience intense suffering. It is felt that the agony and fear of the withdrawal experiences will always remain in the addict's mind and, perhaps, help him resist the temptations of further drug abuse."

After "cold turkey" follows a regimented six months of work therapy and counselling. Addicts work an eight-hour day at full pay on electronic component assembly, bag making and furniture polishing. The reasoning here is that addicts who were previously found jobs after release from St John's could not hold them because their capacity for sustained effort had been seriously impaired both by the addiction and the leisurely pace that they were permitted to cure themselves.

The compulsory aftercare counselling begins on the day that "cold turkey" ends.

The centre opened with 50 admissions shared among nine professionally qualified aftercare officers from the social services department.

In six months the number of addicts rose to about 900, an impossible load for the social services officers. To ease this situation, groups of national service intakes are being trained as aftercare officers.

By March, 240 national servicemen, picked through psychological test methods, and mainly from the professions and business fields will have been trained.

Each serviceman is assigned a caseload of three addicts. He will meet the addict both individually and in groups at the centre, find him a job prior to release, and for the two years aftercare period check employment, family relationships, associates and criminal circles in terms of how the former addict is establishing a new lifestyle or reverting to his former habits and "friends."

The aftercare officers are expected to work, if necessary, at night, to respond to calls from their three charges, and complete appropriate reports for sifting by the professional officers.

Is it working? Clearly, Singapore has put considerable research into its "war" against drug abuse. A similarly intensive campaign to that on rehabilitation is being waged in the area of restricting the availability of heroin through a joint effort by Customs and police.

However, at present, supplies are easily obtainable, a situation likely to continue for some time, all authorities agree.

After eight months of the new rehabilitation programme, authorities claim that just two of nearly 100 who have completed six

months at Telok Paku have returned to heroin. This compares favourably with the previous 80 percent relapse rate at St John's. But there could be others "we won't really know till the new urine test law is passed," said one social worker.

And "cold turkey?" Is there concern at the legality of locking up young people without Court sanction?

It is something that has to be seen in the context of Singapore's identity, said one social worker.

Another authority pointed out that it was working in Japan and "so far," he said no one had died.

Others agreed that there were problems with the new programme, specially overcrowding and classification; of keeping first from habitual offenders.

However, additional buildings were planned.

To many New Zealanders, Singapore's drug rehabilitation scheme may seem excessively tough.

However, in the Singapore context its determination to come to grips with the drug problem reflects a measure of deep concern about the future of the island's young people (60 percent are aged 21 years or under).

By involving national servicemen from many of Singapore's top business and professional families, the Government has greatly increased the community's awareness of the extent and tragedy of drug addiction.

The success of the scheme will depend on the maintenance of inter-departmental communication and training, said one official. For the scheme's inception, police received social work training, and social workers received police training. And both groups received training in

health aspects. The belief is that if one sector is weak, then this failure will be recycled through the whole system and effort.

● In a third article, Tory Garnier, the "Post's" Political Correspondent, abroad to study "the drug problem" under the Mobil Overseas Award in Journalism, will examine Malaysia's recent experience, specially its need to introduce drug education programmes into secondary schools.

[Text]

THE SMARTLY DRESSED 16-year-old Malaysian schoolboy, Hooi Heng, looked what his teachers believed he was — the respectable son of a prosperous Chinese businessman.

Then one day a teacher overheard, Hooi in idle conversation mention "chasing the dragon."

It was enough for the teacher to realise that the school might have a serious drug abuse problem on its hands.

After consulting the principal and the guidance counselor a discreet watch was kept to gain proof.

Although nothing concrete emerged, within a fortnight the principal decided that the size of the problem warranted his submitting the school's prized reputation and honour to scrutiny by outsiders.

By his estimation about 100 of the school's 1000 pupils were involved in smoking heroin in spiked cigarettes.

The reference to "chasing the dragon" was to a craze that swept through Malaysian schools last year, smoking heroin alone.

Education head office "experts" were called in. They asked the principal to call together the pupils he believed had a drug problem.

About 80 were assembled. The "experts" had decided that the best way of tackling the situation was to seek the

pupil's confidence and get at least some to admit they had a "problem" that needed solving.

But the experts also had a problem; how to get the pupils to say something about what was happening without individually charging them in the absence of hard evidence and to avoid sending still further underground the suspected heroin smoking.

The group was first told that anything they volunteered would be treated "in confidence."

But a question from one pupil destroyed that idea. "How confidential is 'confidential'?" he wanted to know.

But it opened up further questions that showed some boys believed they did have a drug abuse problem.

Q: "Is the treatment painful?"

Q: "Can we get over it through sheer will power?"

Obviously, some pupils had heard of the pain and suffering of "cold turkey" methods of detoxification.

The upshot was that pupils who felt they had a drug problem were invited to write their name on a sheet of paper. Other pupils could write anything they chose. This way everyone was seen to write something, avoiding accusations of informing on colleagues.

Some names came up, confidential meetings were arranged and eventually the core of the problem sorted out.

As with most Malaysian schools, pupils are mainly of Chinese or Malay origin. Care had to be taken not to enflame traditional antagonisms, although this factor enabled authorities to discreetly play off one group against the other in terms of getting pupils to volunteer information.

According to a senior Malaysian educationist, who related this story, the pupils of this school were lucky. They had a principal prepared to take a risk to salvage something for them.

Although government policy is to regard drug addiction as a social disease, many schools are ducking facing the problem either sweeping cases further from help by confronting pupils with traditional authoritarian solutions or pretending there is no problem and ignoring those obviously needing help.

School pride is sometimes a factor here. Also, a lack of proximity between teachers and their pupils creates difficulties for authorities attempting to assess the extent of the problem.

As it was put to me: If 150,000 Malaysians are heroin addicts, it probably doesn't matter much to Wellingtonians. Similarly, if 1000 Australian school children are addicted, little sleep is lost in Wellington. But if someone's Wellington neighbour were an addict then it would become a national calamity.

"We are trying to find a way to tell Malaysians that if they see or have a drug problem it matters, and not to sweep it under the carpet because of their pride."

Authorities in Malaysia concerned with the drug problem are now of one view, that the period of complacency, septicism, disbelief and keeping drug addiction under the carpet should be long gone.

A factor that brought authorities together was the findings of a survey by the University of Malaysia. In particular, the survey indicated that cigarette smoking was a significant platform from which pupils, about 12 percent of more than 16,000 surveyed, graduated to using heroin, mainly by smoking it in spiked cigarettes.

Another feature was that for every pupil who admitted using a potentially addict-forming drug, another five said they had not used them but were interested in doing so.

The survey showed that young people begin taking drugs like cigarettes, cannabis, alcohol and heroin mainly for two reasons, the drug was available and they were fascinated or curious to try it.

The pressure of peers to "give it a go" and be a member of the "in" group was also apparent.

A lesser number began taking drugs for the "excitement," to alleviate boredom and run away from other problems, significantly, a feeling of not being able to match up to family pressures to do well at school.

Based partly on the survey results, Malaysia has developed an integrated drug education programme which began on January 1, 1977.

The programme replaces former methods on the grounds that they have been counter-productive.

In particular, the survey revealed that United States films on drugs shown by Malaysian schools had backfired. Instead of putting pupils off, scenes of young Americans injecting themselves had made many curious to try it for themselves.

Also, using the findings of the survey that about 80 percent of pupils are not interested in taking drugs, education authorities reasoned that there is little point in confronting them with information that may make them curious.

Instead, a drug education programme has been devised with hardly a mention of terms like "drugs" or "drug taking."

Based on a technique known as value substitution, terms like "good" and "bad," "right" and "wrong" are included in a way that pupils can project back to their own sense of standards, regardless of whether they are a mixed group of Chinese, Malay or Indian.

Teachers are required to be more highly trained and sensitive to classroom discussion situations to get the most positive result.

Teachers, however, are being fully acquainted with information about drugs, even though they have been specifically directed not to show drug taking methods and equipment.

Part of the aim and hope is that when the topic comes up, as it did in the idle comment by Hooi, a teacher can latch on to its significance, take further action if necessary and, specially know not to pass a value judgment (by reading the riot act) or alarm pupils who may have a problem requiring professional attention.

Where a pupil is found to be taking drugs, parent involvement is required.

A future article will consider what New Zealand can learn from the Malaysian connection.

[Text]

THE BEST kept road in Thailand snakes 17 miles from Chiang Mai, the unofficial capital of the world's largest opium poppy growing region, into the nearby mountains.

Known as the "King's Road," it is immaculately sealed, its borders weeded almost dirty and railings freshly painted.

The road links the mountain palace "retreat" of the King of Thailand with Chiang Mai, a beautifully spacious city, the country's second largest after Bangkok, 700 kilometres to the south.

When the king comes to Chiang Mai from his palace, troops armed to the teeth with M15 rifles clear the road in advance.

A few minutes walk from the king's palace can be found some of the world's worst roads, tracks really, and lowest living standards.

About now, through February and March, with the king in residence in his palace, about 200,000 mountain villagers will start their annual opium poppy harvest.

On the success of their work will depend a meagre but vital supply of rice received as trade from Thais living on the lowlands. A successful harvest will also ensure the continued supply of heroin to New Zealand's drug addicts.

When the heroin reaches New Zealand, the price will be increased 1000-fold.

On United Nations statistics, about 150 tonnes of opium will be produced, which, added to the 450 tonnes from nearby Burma and 100 tonnes from Laos, will ensure that the figure of about 5000 deaths per month from heroin addiction will

continue — in the United States alone, a figure higher than from traffic accidents, it has been claimed.

Arriving in a hilltop village aware of these statistics and having witnessed something of the effects of heroin addiction, to see gentle village folk quietly weeding their opium crops and an old lady

sitting in a shady spot puffing on a beautifully carved opium pipe produces reactions of anger and bewilderment from the jeep load of privileged "foreign" visitors.

This year's crop has already been pre-sold to traders who do their annual rounds of the villages ahead of the harvest.

After the opium has been obtained from the poppy plant it will be collected and taken to assembly points. Most will then be moved to Burma, a few miles to the north, for processing into heroin.

Ten pounds (4.5kg) of opium will reduce to a pound (450g) of pure heroin, making transportation to the international market considerably easier.

The processed product will then return to Thailand traversing a massive network of forest tracks across Chiang Mai province.

Some will be flown direct to off-shore points for collection by fishing boats from Hong Kong, Malaysia or Indonesia. Some will go overland into Malaysia.

Trucks and cars will deliver bulk cargo for breaking down into allotments for shipping to Europe, America, Australia and New Zealand.

A significant amount will be flown out by couriers, both professionals (Malaysians, Chinese and Europeans) and tourists, especially young people being approached at certain (namable) Bangkok restaurants and hotels.

Canned goods and furniture for export, especially, will have marked consignments, indicating heroin to those in the know.

The postal service will also be used.

Pay-offs to various authorities, border and provincial police, forest workers, customs, dock and shipping connections will ensure enough supplies will reach the addicts to make the effort profitable.

Many of the heroin connections between extensive parts of South-east Asia, Europe (particularly Amsterdam and London) and the Americas will be of Chinese stock whose ancestors were known as the Chiu Chow and came from an area north of Hong Kong with a tradition as robbers.

Typically, it is said, a syndicate (connecting producer and distributor countries) will arrange for 20 kg of heroin to be moved to the market in 20 1kg loads, each transported by a different method. If just one or two kilos reach the addicts, it is enough to pay all the bills and still leave a handsome profit.

It is also said that the King knows all this and that many people in Thailand — the middle men — depend for their livelihood on the hill tribesmen growing their opium and the addicts demanding it reach them.

It is illegal to grow opium in Thailand, but the King has publicly refused to enforce the law till the international community provides the hill tribe with an alternative crop that they can grow, sell and ensure their livelihood.

It is clear to others that the King is a realist, calling for law enforcement only in areas where there is a popular demand!

A massive escalation of effort by the international community and Thailand is required if the scheme to find a cash crop to replace the growing of opium by hill tribes is to succeed.

Otherwise, opium production will increase as other Thai groups become aware of the enormous potential profits.

A five-year pilot project in Thailand by the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control to find a replacement crop runs out in September next year.

An initial sum of \$(US)2,100,000 was budgeted to the United Nations for the scheme. Of this,

\$(US)1,500,000 was for agriculture and programme administration, half a million dollars for treatment and rehabilitation and \$(US)33,000 for education and information. In addition, the Thailand Government contributed \$(US)5,200,000.

Known as "The King's Project," Thailand's effort is dovetailed with that of the United Nations.

At its present level, the crop replacement scheme is not a threat to opium production.

If it were, terrorism could have been expected against villagers in the five "key" and 25 "satellite" villages selected for the agricultural extension and experimental work, reasons the scheme's director (Dr Bob Mann).

The bulk of the experimental work consists of seeking potentially suitable crops from overseas, planting them and seeing if they will grow. There is little applied research.

About a dozen kiwifruit plants had recently arrived from New Zealand and were in a large nursery awaiting planting.

There is also a training programme in basic agricultural methods for selected hill tribesmen.

A world coffee authority (E T Fukunaga) of Hawaii University has said that the "Golden Triangle" poppy-growing region of Thailand, Laos and Burma has the potential to become the world's leading coffee producing area.

However, development will require vast financial and expert commitment, said Dr Mann.

"If the western world is really serious about snuffing the drug problem at source, it will have to commit itself to a project on a scale similar to that of the United States by sending B52 bomb-

ers to hit the hill tribes of Vietnam in the 1960s," he said.

New Zealand could have to decide whether it wants to play a part, either through committing capital or consultants.

Meanwhile there is already scope for increased in-

volvement by New Zealand under a recent decision of the United Nations assistant secretary general for the division of narcotic drugs (Dr Dubeus).

He has indicated that he is prepared to extend the crop replacement scheme whereby

the United Nations gradually phase down its effort giving control to Thailand or a joint Thailand-International exercise.

The issue, which has implications for global peace, is presently under study in world capitals.

[7 Feb 77, p 6]

[Text]

THE LACK of involvement by New Zealand in the international fight against heroin production and trafficking has produced criticism from authoritative Thailand connections.

"New Zealand is profiting without contributing," said a senior British diplomat in Bangkok.

A leading Thailand medical authority warned that New Zealand should introduce a comprehensive drug education programme "before it is too late." He indicated that Thailand needed outside help, specially in the training of specialist nurses and after-care officers for a new prevention and rehabilitation programme to be introduced in five stages. It started on January 1.

A United Nations official based in Chiang Mai, north Thailand, commented that New Zealanders were among the worst of "do gooders" who joined aid programmes and attempted to impose "naive, theoretical and idealistic pre-conceptions" on people they were supposedly helping.

He cited a story of a New Zealander who lasted barely six months, leaving "virtually in tears."

Confirming the story, another Chiang Mai source suggested that New Zealanders wanting to help should forget their pre-conceptions on how agriculture should be practised, drop their ideal-

ism, and learn that giving aid requires a hard-hearted and professional approach.

An example of New Zealand profiting by international co-operation without contributing was given by the British counsellor for Hong Kong affairs based in Bangkok (Mr Peter Law).

Recently, two former members of Parliament for Thailand were arrested on trafficking charges in Hong Kong. Their arrest followed international liaison involving British, United States, Thailand and Hong Kong personnel. Briefly, a United States agent named Lance Stewart (on his sixth operation) posed as a trafficker to the United States, establishing bona fide connections to big money and high contacts, in reality the U.S. Government. He was able to insist that his Thai connection also show his expertise by making a dry run involving bringing a kilogram of heroin to Hong Kong. The operation proceeded according to a detailed plan, including the Thai being routinely frisked at Hong Kong Airport to avoid any suspicion that they were being treated differently. Eventually, Stewart and the Thai met in a specified Hong Kong hotel room. Here, through a prearranged signalling system, Stewart, after showing "the money," was able to alert police waiting in the lobby that the "drop" could be about to be made. Sur-

prisingly, two further Thais walked into the hotel. One carried a suitcase. Usually the "drop" is made by a Hong Kong taxi-driver.

But this time there was a chance to capture bigger fish. A signal was passed to Stewart to expect some action. He had no way of reading the signal, except that it meant the "drop" could be coming. In a complicated set of manoeuvres that then followed, Stewart was able to see the heroin. Incredibly, it had been made into a paste to form a consistent lining covering the whole of the inside of the suitcase. The heroin was an integral part of the suitcase.

According to international narcotics experts, at least one of the former Thai MPs was behind trafficking to Australia and New Zealand. He was also wanted by police in Canada and elsewhere.

In recent weeks it has been announced that the Netherlands, Canada and the United Nations are sending drug experts to Bangkok. They will join British, United States and other countries already represented. An Australian has recently been appointed to Kuala Lumpur. The British would appreciate him being appointed to Bangkok, where the action begins.

Mr Law said he told of the Hong Kong-Thailand New Zealand connection to highlight the need for a full-blooded liaison exercise by New

Zealand to Bangkok. Informal approaches had been made to New Zealand representatives in Bangkok, but as far as he was aware they had not been taken up.

"An expert should come here and have talks with all the experts in turn, Thais, British, American, Netherlands, Canadians. . . ." Mr Law suggested.

Certainly, other sources confirmed that many of the recent arrests of drug traffickers around the world and attributed to Thailand authorities could, in fact, be traced back to quiet work being done by international police "diplomats." Aware of the success that some of the diplomats are having, syndicates have threatened at least one ambassador in Bangkok in recent months.

Although a major part of the world drug problem could be traced back to responsibilities at the source of supply, it was not good enough, said Mr Law, for authorities to sit back in Europe, America, Australia and New Zealand and say it was Thailand's fault.

The problem was too complex for that type of simplistic blame.

A senior Thai narcotics authority supported suggestions that New Zealand play a greater role. He agreed that elements of Thailand's police were corrupt, and that a new drug suppression squad spent a large amount

of time dealing with corruption. But not all police were corrupt, and as their efforts increased to stop drugs entering Thailand (mainly from Burma, where most heroin originates) and prevent it leaving, the problem was spreading in Thailand itself.

In this respect increased international co-operation at the level of rehabilitation would be useful, said the director of the Research and Prevention Programme on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (Professor Prasop Ratanakorn). In particular, training was required for the staff for 15 planned out-patient clinics to be established in the next five years.

Meanwhile, the second-best methods are developed, a fragmentation effect has been detected by some authorities, including Interpol.

Since Amsterdam toughened its attitude towards drug trafficking late last year, other centres have recorded significant first-ever hauls. They include Vienna, Moscow and Oslo. Australia, and New Zealand were, if they hadn't already been, feeling the effect of efforts to shift the drug trafficking to safer ground.

Certainly, all authorities agreed that it will take years for heroin trafficking to be brought under control.

"It is," said one Bangkok narcotics expert, "like tracking a cat in a dark room." In his view, an attitude echoed by other law enforcement authorities, success lies not with suppression and law enforcement but with education, an aspect barely touched by many countries (including New Zealand).

Meanwhile, the second-best line of defence was the crop replacement scheme, specially if the whole of the "Golden Triangle" region of Thailand, Burma and Laos could be included.

Again, crop replacement was still in an experimental stage, and hardly under way.

When the deputy Prime Minister of the Netherlands (Dr Van Ryceck) recently visited Chiang Mai, in the

"Golden Triangle," an influential hill tribe chief told him that the hill tribes were prepared to grow any alternative crop provided they could live off it.

The availability of heroin is, of course, a key factor in it being used. But for availability to be reduced will require a massive effort involving countries around the world pulling on the same rope.

STUDENTS PREFER MARIJUANA TO TOBACCO

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 18 Apr 77 p 12

[Text]

DUNEDIN, April 17 (PA).—More university students in New Zealand use marijuana than tobacco, according to a recent survey of drug use among tertiary students in Auckland.

However, alcohol is still the most widely used drug, with 88 percent of the sample of 2840 university, teachers' college, and technical institute students using it.

The results of the survey, conducted by Dr Sally Caswell and Marie Hood, researchers from the department of psychiatry at the Auckland Medical School, appear in the New Zealand Medical Journal.

Use

The survey investigated the use of 12 illicit drugs and alcohol and tobacco.

While about 50 percent of the students reported having used tobacco, only 26 percent of them said they were using

it now. Of those who did use tobacco, all used it at least once a day and most used it more than six times a day.

In comparison, about 33 percent of the students reported having used marijuana and 27 percent of them said they were using it now.

In contrast with tobacco use, most marijuana users said they used the drug less than once a week and only seven of the 1646 university students surveyed used it daily.

The use of marijuana is highest among university students. Among this group, 32 percent said they were now users of marijuana while 23 percent said they used tobacco.

Among the teachers college students, both drugs were used by 23 percent of the sample, and 26 percent of the technical students reported using marijuana while 31 percent used tobacco.

Access

The survey also shows cannabis (marijuana or hashish) users have much wider access to and use of other illicit drugs.

Of those who used cannabis, 63 percent did not use other illicit drugs, nine percent have used LSD, and 27 percent have used at least one other illicit drug.

Opium has been used at least once by 10 percent of the cannabis users and 3.6 percent have used heroin.

Most cannabis users said they got the drug as a gift, but as use became more regular the users became more involved in buying or growing their own supply of the drug.

Almost a third of the heavy-regular users admitted selling cannabis for a profit and two-thirds had supplied without making a profit.

Discussing the results, the researchers state: "The illegal status of cannabis frequently provides the purchaser with a source of supply and encouragement for other illicit drugs, and may also serve to lessen apprehension about the consequence of illegal drug use."

The survey shows that the extent of marijuana use in New Zealand has reached a similar level reported in the United States, and in Britain.

This could be a result of the more widespread availability of the drug.

"The picture suggested by the present results and the perspective provided by results from other Western countries is one of increasing tolerance of marijuana use among a minority of the younger New Zealand population," the researchers claim.

NEW ZEALANDERS ARRESTED FOR IMPORTING DRUGS INTO ENGLAND

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 4 Mar 77 p 5

[Text]

NZPA Reporter David Barber

LONDON, March 3.—The New Zealand High Commission in London is concerned about the increasing number of young New Zealanders being arrested here for trying to import drugs into the country.

Four New Zealanders were given hefty jail sentences on separate drug charges by London courts in a six-week spell recently. All will be deported at the end of their prison terms.

"Although the numbers are not large, this rate is unprecedented, and we are very concerned about it," a High Commission spokesman said today.

"New Zealanders should be warned that they face the full brunt of British law if they try

to smuggle drugs into this country. There is no way that the New Zealand Government can help them, and they will have to face the consequences."

Prison terms of up to four years were imposed on the New Zealanders involved in the recent cases. All were arrested at London's Heathrow Airport after being found with drugs on them or in their luggage.

Police and officials of London drug centres, set up to help addicts and offenders, warned late last year of the increasing number of New Zealanders involved with drugs.

They said more were attempting to bring drugs into Britain, having picked them up in the Far East on their way to London.

Many did it to try to pay their fares, but were frequently caught because they were "amateur couriers," and police and Customs officials were aware of the air routes being used for drug-running.

The recent ejection from Britain of a 28-year-old Maori rock musician has also highlighted an increase in the numbers of New Zealand overstayers being ordered to leave the country.

The High Commission stresses that it is not notified of every case, but it knows of

six New Zealanders told to leave in the last 12 months. Previous official figures were two in the whole of 1975 and none back to 1972 when there were also two.

The Home Office denies that there is a crackdown on New Zealanders who have overstayed their visa times and become illegal immigrants. An official said the number of New Zealanders ejected was "very small" compared with the overall rate of all overstayers.

• In Sydney an article urging Australian school children to make up their own minds about drugs was removed today from the education department's official "School Magazine" in New South Wales.

Every primary school headmaster in the State received urgent orders to rip the offending three pages from the March copies of "School Magazine — 6," which was being distributed to 80,000 sixth-year pupils, aged 11 and 12.

The article, entitled "You Work It Out" said: "You see people who use marihuana every now and then. They use it to relax and feel nice, and because they enjoy it, just as other people have a glass of wine with their meals." — NZPA.

SENTENCE FOR IMPORTING HEROIN IN MAGAZINES

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 19 Feb 77 p 14

[Text]

CHRISTCHURCH, Friday, Feb 18 (PA). — A young man, who still "categorically denied" that he had any involvement with the importation of heroin concealed in the hollowed out centres of six rolled magazines posted in Bangkok, was jailed for six years by Mr Justice Casey in the Supreme Court today.

The man, Gregory Carl Reed, aged 24, was found guilty by a jury last week on a charge of importing heroin into New Zealand at Auckland about October 5, 1975.

Evidence was given during the trial that the six magazines containing 8.6 grams of heroin were posted in Bangkok to false names at addresses in Riverlaw Terrace and Clifton Bay.

It was estimated that the heroin was worth \$12,000 on the illicit drug market in New Zealand.

Reed was in Bangkok about the time the magazines were posted and he spent a fairly large amount of his overseas funds in Thailand. Some

magazines were opened by a senior postal official after they arrived by air mail in Auckland.

When the magazines were examined by the Customs Department it was found that each had a cavity of about 15cm by 10cm, lined with carbon paper and containing a plastic bag of white powder which, on analysis, proved to be heroin. Reed's thumbprint was found on the inside of one magazine.

'Innocent'

Mr B McClelland, for Reed, said that he was in some difficulty about making submissions because Reed still categorically denied any part in the importation of the heroin.

He claimed that he was completely innocent. Because of that counsel was unable to make any submissions regarding the circumstances of the offence.

Reed had an excellent probation officer's report and counsel had a large number of references. He asked that Reed be dealt with as leniently as possible.

"The courts have made it very clear indeed," said His Honour, "that people who become involved in the importation of heroin must expect a substantial prison sentence."

He accepted everything that the probation report said in Reed's favour. He was a young man of considerable abilities and promise and had been making his way in life in a way which was commendable.

"I must accept, as the jury has, that you are guilty of this offence and it becomes my painful duty to impose a substantial prison sentence upon you, not only as a punishment for involvement in the traffic of this drug, which has such appalling social and personal consequences, but also as a warning to others that the importation of this drug is not going to be tolerated," the Judge said.

TWO CHARGED WITH POSSESSING CANNABIS

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 20 Apr 77 p 3

[Text]

AS a result of a search warrant executed on an Upper Hutt hall on March 25, two people appeared in the Upper Hutt Magistrate's Court yesterday charged with offences under the Narcotics Act.

Kenneth Steven Wright, 20, apprentice butcher, pleaded guilty to unlawfully possessing cannabis and was fined \$150.

Mary Louise Spooner, 35, unemployed manageress, pleaded guilty to two charges of unlawfully possessing cannabis, one charge of possessing a needle for administering heroin, and one charge of possessing methadone, and was fined \$150 on each charge.

Sergeant W M Dunn said that on March 25 police visited the Whakatiki Pavilion in Upper Hutt because of a breach of the Sale of Liquor Act.

Bags

Police took names and addresses from people and when Wright was questioned, he took out a wallet which contained a plastic bag of cannabis.

He admitted the drug was his and said he had had two cannabis cigarettes during the night, and had bought it from a man at the social for \$25.

Sergeant Dunn said Wright said he knew it was illegal, and had been open and cooperative throughout the incident. He said the cannabis contained in the bag weighed 6.67 grams.

Mr A B Lendrum, for Wright, said Wright had purchased the cannabis at the function, and did not know the person he had bought it from. It was only a small quantity and Wright was not an habitual user.

Mr M F Hobbs, SM, said people who were prepared to use such things should expect to pay the premium.

Sergeant Dunn said Spooner had a large quantity of cannabis in her bag.

When she was taken to the Upper Hutt police station, a further search of her bag showed she had a needle, more cannabis, some methadone, and some heroin.

Spooner told police she had been living in a commune on the Coromandel Peninsula for two years and had come to Wellington for a holiday.

While here, she had met some friends in a hotel and they had given her the drugs.

Sergeant Dunn said Spooner had 17.174 grams of cannabis, 16mg of methadone, and 18mg of heroin.

Mr C M Rickit, for Spooner, said Spooner's explanation to the police was correct and she had come to Wellington to visit her daughter, whose birthday it was.

Purely by chance, said Mr Rickit, she had come into contact with some former unsavoury friends. He said old memories were relived in a city hotel where she was offered and accepted the heroin and the methadone. She already had the cannabis, he said.

Mr Rickit said Spooner was not a user of heroin or methadone, but was a user of cannabis, and was heavily under the influence of alcohol when she was cajoled into accepting the drugs.

HEROIN ADDICT GIVEN PRISON TERM

Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 22 Apr 77 p 5

[Text]

CHRISTCHURCH, April 20 (PA). — A heroin addict was sent to prison for two and a half years when he was sentenced in the Supreme Court today on a charge of attempted aggravated robbery.

Malcolm Mervyn Page, 23, unemployed, pleaded guilty to the charge which arose out of an incident on Christmas Day when the defendant and another man tried to get drugs from a nurse at Burwood Hospital.

Mr P D Woolley, for Page, said the prisoner had been addicted to heroin for more than five years and submitted that he was in a toxic state of withdrawal when the attempted robbery was committed.

Page and the other man had found that their supply of heroin had run out, the Court was told. They had tried to obtain some but had been unsuccessful.

The prisoner had provided the broken and unloaded air rifle used in the attempt. Mr Woolley said that Page had waited outside Burwood Hospital while the attempt was made.

In sentencing Page, Mr Justice Roper said it was only the courageous stand of the nurse which had prevented the success of the attempt.

The prison sentence is to be served concurrently with a sentence of nine months imposed on Page in February for four charges of theft, all relating to drugs.

BRIEFS

WOMEN ON HEROIN CHARGE--Auckland, 5 Jan (PA)--Two young women appeared in the Magistrate's Court today charged with importing heroin. A 28-year-old Blockhouse Bay woman was allowed bail of \$500 with one surety and a 21-year-old woman of no fixed abode was also allowed bail of \$500 with two similar sureties. Both women, who were allowed interim name suppression, were remanded to 7 February for the taking of depositions by Mr J. W. Bain, SM. [Text] [Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 6 Jan 77 p 11]

MARIHUANA FOUND IN MOTEL--Auckland, Today (PA)--Drug squad detectives had one of the biggest marihuana hauls in the last 12 months during a raid on a city motel yesterday--60 kg of marihuana sticks packed into two large suitcases are estimated to be worth at least \$300,000 on the street. The sticks, which normally cost about \$10 each, could have fetched as much as \$17 each because of a recent shortage on the marihuana market. The head of Auckland's drug squad, Detective Chief Inspector Peter Gentry, said the haul was certainly one of the biggest for the past 12 months, but it was not as big as some in 1975. The marihuana had come originally from Southeast Asia. A young Australian man was to appear in the Magistrate's Court today charged with importing cannabis. [Text] [Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 12 Jan 77 p 7]

LIGHT PLANES BURGLARIZED--Palmerston N. Today (PA)--Drug users in Manawatu have entered a new field in their search for narcotics--since the weekend three light aircraft--two at Taonui Aerodrome, near Feilding, and one at Milson--have been broken into and their first-aid kits stolen. The regional drug coordinator, Detective Chris Stevenson-Wright, said the thefts were obviously the work of people looking for narcotics, but they would be out of luck. "The kits don't contain anything worthwhile to these people," he said. It was a classic example of the irresponsible behaviour of people within the drug scene; they had no regard for the safety of other people. [Text] [Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 3 Feb 77 p 1]

HEROIN CAME IN MAGAZINES--Christchurch, 11 Feb (PA)--After deliberating for an hour and a half yesterday, a jury in the Supreme Court found Gregory Carl Reed, 24, guilty on a charge of importing heroin into New Zealand at Auckland

about 2 October 1975. Mr Justice Casey remanded Reed in custody to 18 February for sentence. At the trial this week, evidence was given that six rolled magazines, which had their centres hollowed out and filled with heroin, arrived by airmail at Auckland from Bangkok. The heroin was worth \$12,000 on the illicit drug market. The magazines were addressed to false names at two Christchurch addresses. Messrs P. G. S. Penlington and J. J. Brandts-Giesen appeared for the Crown, and Messrs B. McClelland, QC and P. H. B. Hall for Reed, who pleaded not guilty. [Text] [Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 12 Feb 77 p 3]

HEROIN SEIZURE--A small amount of heroin was seized by Customs officers last Sunday night during a routine rummage search of the ship Straat Amsterdam. The amount found, about 4 grams, was discovered after the ship had berthed on its arrival from Bangkok, Singapore and Suva. [Text] [Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 17 Feb 77 p 10]

COCAINE OFFERED TO POLICEMAN--Auckland, Today (PA)--A 28-year-old unemployed truck-driver, Kevin Ronald Deverick, was committed to the Supreme Court yesterday for trial on a charge of offering to supply cocaine to an undercover policeman. He pleaded not guilty before JPs. Police alleged that Deverick arranged to sell 3 grams of the narcotic for \$340 to an undercover policeman on 6 January, and that he took the money and exchanged it for the cocaine with a third person, then returned to his house, where he was spoken to by police. The third person was not apprehended at the time because of a shortage of police staff. He has not yet been located. [Text] [Wellington THE EVENING POST on English 2 Mar 77 p 6]

HEROIN USED TO SURVIVE--Grant Harvey Jerome Dunlop, 27, copytaker, no longer got "stoned" on heroin but used it "just to reach a settled state of mind to survive in society," counsel (Mr C. D. Sygrove) said in the Magistrate's Court last week. The accused appeared for sentence before Mr H. Gilbert, SM, on two charges of possessing heroin and a needle and syringe on 10 February. He had earlier pleaded guilty to both charges. Counsel said that it was a tragic case of a young man with a promising career who now finds himself in the clutch of narcotics. He had developed a "habit" and had had to leave his job so he could have methadone treatment. He had since found another job as a copytaker. There was no suggestion by the police that the accused was involved in distributing heroin. The accused's possession of heroin and instruments was due to his state of mind and because the drug treatment clinic had restricted hours. This meant the accused had had to use heroin to relieve the craving for treatment. Mr Gilbert said he was satisfied Dunlop was making a genuine effort to solve his drug problem and was prepared to be lenient. Dunlop was fined \$150 on each charge. [Text] [Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 8 Mar 77 p 19]

WOMAN JAILED FOR LSD--For selling the narcotic LSD on two separate occasions, and for possessing cannabis, Cheryl Margaret Davis, 31, unemployed waitress, was sentenced to a total of 7 months' imprisonment when she appeared before

Mr M. F. Hobbs, SM, in the Magistrate's Court last Friday. Davis had previously pleaded guilty to the three charges. Police said that on 6 December she sold a cone of LSD to an undercover police officer in a city motel, and on the following evening sold the same officer two more cones of narcotic. On 13 January she was apprehended in a hotel and a search revealed a cannabis cigarette hidden inside her bra. Counsel (Mr D. Stevens) submitted that Davis had not gained financially from selling the LSD. She sold it to an undercover police officer whom she believed to be a good friend and simply acted as a go-between, between the police officer and the drug vendor. His worship said he was not convinced that there were any special circumstances to dissuade the Court from imposing a term of imprisonment. He could not overlook the fact that Davis had already been convicted for possessing cannabis, and that she must have been aware of the risks and penalties involved. [Text] [Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 14 Mar 77 p 24]

LSD HAUL IN CHRISTCHURCH--Christchurch, 29 Mar (PA)--What is believed to be the biggest haul of LSD in New Zealand was seized in Christchurch today by drug squad detectives. It is understood that the LSD would have had a street value of about \$36,000. In addition, about \$4,000 worth of cannabis is thought to have been seized in the same raid. A 32-year-old Christchurch businessman appeared in the Magistrate's Court late this afternoon charged with possessing both LSD and cannabis for the purpose of sale. He was remanded in custody to 4 April by Mr N. L. Bradford, SM. He entered no pleas to the charges. He was granted interim suppression of name by the Magistrate at the request of Counsel, Mr P. D. Swain. An application for bail for the defendant was declined by the Magistrate after submissions were heard in Chambers. [Text] [Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 30 Mar 77 p 4]

MASSEUSE GETS TWO YEARS--Auckland, 31 Mar (PA)--An Avondale masseuse, Kaye Francis Forman, was sentenced to 2 years' jail today after admitting possession of heroin and offering to sell the narcotic. "Heroin is a vile drug, and has caused death to many young people," Mr B. H. Blackwood, SM, said. Two years was the lightest penalty he could impose. "If you had sold it to an addict rather than an undercover constable, who knows what havoc you might have caused to someone's life." [Text] [Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 1 Apr 77 p 9]

WARNING ON DOOMDOTS--Wellington police today issued a warning that the powerful LSD drug called the "doomdot" is being sold in Wellington, and have asked parents to check what parties their children are going to. Within the last 2 weeks the drug has been circulating round Dunedin and it has already resulted in one teenage girl being hospitalised after a drink she had at a party had been "spiked." The drug disorients the user's brain, causing hallucinations which can block out memory for several hours or even days. The teenage girl did not know her drink had been tampered with as the drug comes in a tiny tablet form that is cut up into four pieces. Pushers have been known to spike drinks to give people kicks, or possibly hook them on drugs. A police spokesman said today that the tablets were like black dots and added that many purchasing them would not be aware of their power.

"When they are cut in four they cannot be seen in a drink at a party, so we are warning people to watch strangers at weekend parties," the spokesman said. "A bad trip, as they call it, can result in a person being very seriously ill, and flashbacks of hallucinations can occur for months after."
[Text] [Wellington THE EVENING POST in English 20 Apr 77 p 1]

CSO: 5300

SINGAPORE

SINGAPORE HEROIN SMUGGLERS JAILED IN FINLAND

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 8 Mar 77 p 1

[Text] Two brothers from Singapore received jail sentences totalling 19 years here [Helsinki] today for trying to smuggle a large amount of heroin into Finland.

The court, which also sentenced the wives of the two men to five and a half years' jail each, said Customs officials had netted a haul of 19 kilograms (41 lb) worth millions sterling (dollars) on the black market.

The two couples arrived here [Helsinki] on separate flights from the Far East last December.

Customs officials found nearly 12 kilograms (26 lb) of heroin in the luggage of 34 year-old Yong Bin Kow and his 25-year old wife.

Five days later they found seven kilograms (15 lb) of the drug in the luggage of Yong Kam Koh, 38, and his 36-year-old wife.

Yong Kam Koh who was jailed for nine years, told the court he was taking the heroin from Hong Kong to Amsterdam. His brother received a 10-year sentence.

CSO: 5300

NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD TO GET 200-MEMBER PERMANENT STAFF

Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 28 Apr 77 p 3 BK

[Text] The national Narcotics Control Board [NCB] will get a 200-member permanent staff as it sets out to implement the government's vigorous fight against drugs on a national level.

This was disclosed yesterday by deputy secretary general of the NCB Mr Likhit Thoetsathirasak, who said his office had originally sought 300 staff members, but budgetary allocations this year limit the staff at 200.

The staff is expected to expand in the near future when more budgetary allocations are granted, he said.

The 200 new staff members are being screened, he said. "Some will be transferred from other government agencies while others will be new recruits," he added.

Mr Likhit also reported that the final outcome of the urine drug tests being conducted on new university applicants will be known on 25 May.

Ramkhamhaeng University applicants will undergo the drug tests later--in October, this year--because of technical delay for tests earlier.

New applicants to Si Nakharithawiroth University will undergo the tests on 27 May, he said.

The national Narcotics Control Board, which met under the chairmanship of prime minister Thanin Kraiwichian Tuesday, was also informed that the Education Ministry's General Education Department had set up adult schools in two villages in Chiang Mai Province to provide courses on substitute crops for hilltribes presently cultivating opium.

The schools have been in operation since 1 April.

THAILAND

OFFICIAL REPORTS CRACKDOWN ON SMUGGLERS, DRUG TRAFFICKERS

Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 27 Apr 77 BK

[Text] Chanchai Lithawon, director general of the Customs Department, told newsmen that his department has been taking action against smugglers in the country and has recorded two big achievements this year--the capture of many smuggling boats in the Gulf of Thailand in February and the recent confiscation of 50,000 to 60,000 wrist watches weighing 3 tons and worth some 10 million baht at Don Muang Airport.

He said that the smuggling of contraband goods, especially rice and sugar, is reported most active along the Thai-Malaysian border. The smugglers have built warehouses along the border areas of the two countries and do their business at night, which makes the suppression more difficult since those areas consist of rubber plantations.

The director general disclosed that the Malaysian side had successfully cracked down on these warehouses inside Malaysia, but the Thai side has not yet suppressed the warehouses inside Thailand because there are some legal problems involved in this matter.

Asked about the suppression of heroin exports from Thailand, the director general replied that each year his department seized 200 to 300 kilograms of heroin at Don Muang Airport and that most of the heroin smuggled out through the airport was produced outside the country.

Asked about his department's tools and equipment for suppression work, he said that at present his department has 70 to 80 old boats but a number of modern speed boats and helicopters had been purchased after it received funds from the government.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

BANGKOK POLICE MAKE HEROIN ARREST AT AIRPORT

Hong Kong Woman Arrested

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 23 Apr 77 p 1 BK

[Text] A Hong Kong Chinese woman was arrested at Don Muang Airport yesterday afternoon while about to board a China Airline flight to Hong Kong with 2 kilogrammes of No 4 first grade heroin.

The woman, Mrs Chow Yau Tai (41), was arrested after customs officials found the heroin hidden in her suitcase during a routine check.

Later the same evening Crime Suppression police arrested a Thai-Chinese man whom Mrs Chow had claimed was her accomplice. His name was withheld.

No heroin was found on him, but he was detained for interrogation.

Photo of Heroin

Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 23 Apr 77 p 12 BK

[Photo]



CSO: 5300

THAILAND

POLICE ARREST 11 TOURISTS ON DRUG CHARGES

Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 24 Apr 77 p 1 BK

[Text] At least 11 foreign tourists have been arrested as police mounted a series of raids on second-class hotels, labelled as "haunts" of narcotics-taking young tourists.

The week-long crackdown, kicked off on Wednesday by Section 2 of the Seventh Division under the Crime Suppression Bureau, is aimed, according to a police officer, at "clearing up" drug-taking tourists from "notorious haunts."

Of the 11 arrested so far, 4 are Japanese, 2 Americans, 1 French, 1 Australian and 1 British. Police did not disclose the nationalities of the two other suspects.

Nine of them were booked for illegal possession and use of marijuana. Two others were charged with possessing illicit heroin.

A police officer said the campaign will continue until Tuesday to rid the "notorious hotels" of drugs.

Two Japanese were taken from a room in a well-known hotel near Hua Lamphong Railway Station with three sticks of "dry marijuana." Another one was arrested at a nearby hotel with one stick of "ganja."

The fourth Japanese tourist, with two sticks of marijuana, was staying at a hotel in Thung Mahamek area in Yannawa, police said.

A British woman was arrested at the same hotel with "a small amount of marijuana."

They are all being detained at the second floor of the Crime Suppression Building, police said.

A police officer in charge of the case said yesterday: "They are mostly young tourists who smoke marijuana or take heroin for fun. But we have to take action because such actions are illegal under Thai law."

Police have a list of second-class hotels "these hippie-looking young tourists frequent and [where they] meet one another.

More hotels will be raided, police said, to discourage tourists from turning them into "their haunts."

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

BRIEFS

FORMER MONK SENTENCED--A former monk was sentenced to 30 years imprisonment by the Criminal Court yesterday for possession of heroin. Suwan Maklumthong, 25, formerly a monk at Wat Ratchasittaram, Bangkok Metropolis was arrested while selling heroin to a police officer. He confessed to the charge and was later disrobed by the abbot. The defendant was arrested before for possession of heroin and imprisoned for 2 years, 7 months and 15 days prior to entering the monkhood. However, the Criminal Court yesterday reduced his sentence to 15 years after he pleaded guilty. [Text] [Bangkok MORNING EXPRESS in English 30 Apr 77 p 1 BK]

FOREIGNERS ON NARCOTICS CHARGES--Twenty-three persons, 11 of them foreign tourists are being detained on narcotics charges following a series of raids on "narcotics dens" in a number of second-class hotels in Bangkok April 20-24, according to a summary report on the operation. The eleven tourists were identified as Susuki Katsuchiko, Hirochi Okura, Yamasaki Hirohisa and Koso Mikawa from Japan; S. R. Bailey, Justin G. Bolwin, and Alan H. Cardiff from Australia; Kenneth M. Butley from the U.S.; Miss Helen Alice from Scotland, Michelle Wiscob from England, and M. F. Mariefia from France. All except S. R. Bailey were found to have marijuana in their possession and were each jailed for 2 weeks. Bailey was found with a tube of heroin and is waiting prosecution together with the 12 Thais also facing charges of possessing or trafficking in heroin. [Text] [Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 2 May 77 p 3 BK]

DRUG SUPPRESSION CAMPAIGN--During the past 6 months a narcotic drug suppression campaign with the full cooperation of government units concerned has been conducted successfully. This was recently revealed to newsmen by Pol Maj Gen Phao Sarasin, deputy commissioner of the Central Investigation Bureau, in his capacity as secretary general of the Drug Suppression Center. Moreover, the announcement of the National Administrative Reform Council authorizing the prime minister to exercise Article 21 of the constitution on those regarded as dangers to society has surely frightened drug traffickers, resulting in the reduced amount of drugs being sold. However, Pol Maj Gen Phao stated that so far as a report [?is concerned] there is a large amount

of drugs in the border areas waiting for traffickers. Referring to the use of trained dogs in the drug suppression campaign, Pol Maj Gen Phao stated that they had been used for a long time. Most of them were ordered from Germany. These well-trained dogs have also been [word indistinct] at Don Muang Airport to check for narcotics and marijuana. [Text] [Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 30 Apr 77 BK]

ARREST OF SWISS JOURNALIST--Crime Suppression Division Deputy Superintendent Pol Col M. L. Toem Sanitwong na Ayutthaya learned that a heroin smuggler, who is also a newsman, had checked into room 222 of the Rich Hotel on Sukhumwit Road at 1230 on 18 April. After confirming the information, Pol Maj Phairot Thongin of the Narcotics Suppression Unit and a number of policemen were instructed to arrest John (Nefber), 30, a Swiss national. (Nefber) is a newsman and a photographer for PHOTO PRESS which is published in Zurich and circulated throughout the world. He was arrested for possessing 1 ounce of heroin worth about 6,000 baht. He confessed that he had bought this heroin at the Malaysia Hotel in Ngam Duphli Lane, Tung Mahamek area through a bell boy. He said he was about to leave the country when arrested. [Text] [Bangkok SIANG PUANGCHON in Thai 19 Apr 77 p 16 BK]

JOINT THAI-MALAYSIAN EFFORTS--Hat Yai--A top commander of the Southern Thailand Military Region yesterday called for joint suppression by Thai and Malaysian forces against growing drug traffic along the Thai-Malaysia border by communist guerrillas. Major-General Yutthasak Khlongtruatrok, deputy commander of the military region who jointly planned recent operations with Malaysian commanders against communist guerrillas in Sadao District, told reporters about the guerrillas' newest activities along the common border. The general said one of the most significant results of the 37-day combined offensive by 5,000 Malaysian and Thai troops against communist sanctuaries in Sadao was the capture of a communist heroin factory with 6 pounds (3 kg) of heroin worth 800,000 baht locally. General Yutthasak said this conclusively proved communist involvement in production and trafficking of narcotics. It was certain there were also such activities on an extensive scale elsewhere along the common border. It is vitally important for the two countries to mount an effective campaign to eliminate this menace which could kill just as surely as bullets, he said. [Text] [Bangkok POST in English 22 Apr 77 p 3 BK]

ARREST OF FORMER VILLAGE HEADMAN--Nakhon Phanom--A former village headman was arrested last Monday on suspicion of heroin trafficking. Police identified the headman as Nong Wongrak of Tambon Sibunroeng, Mukdahan District. They said that Nong owned a big house and was very affluent in the area. In a related raid, a police team led by Superintendent Pol Col Manat Sapsano searched a house located on the Mekong River bank, owned by a Nun Suprom. Nun managed to escape, but a thorough search of the house revealed about 1 kilo of No 4 heroin. Nun's wife, Mrs Somchit, was apprehended and she reportedly implicated the former village headman, who was eventually arrested. Nong had been arrested once last February on charges of being a person detrimental to society. He was freed last month and was said to have traveled to Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai provinces before allegedly going to Malaysia with a shipment of heroin. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 Apr 77 p 3 BK]

ROWBOTHAM DENIES HASHISH SMUGGLING CHARGE

Witness Tells of Swiss Bank Account

Toronto THE SATURDAY GLOBE MAIL in English 16 Apr 77 p 11

[Excerpts] Brampton--The owner of a Toronto jewelry store testified in Peel County Court yesterday that he and Robert Rowbotham, 26, who is charged with conspiracy to smuggle a ton of hashish into Canada, opened a Swiss bank account in 1971 as part of their import-export corporation.

Michael Thornton, who was testifying as a defence witness, admitted under cross-examination by federal prosecutor Patrick Duffy that the account was opened in Swiss Bank Corp. in Zurich with the help of Swiss lawyer Peter Prager. Mr. Thornton also agreed that the account number was 316468.

In other testimony, Pulitzer Prize-winning author Normal Mailer testified for the defence that he was going to write a preface for a book being written by U.S. author Richard Stratton on Mr. Rowbotham.

Mr. Mailer told the jury that he found Mr. Rowbotham a fascinating character for whom marijuana was a religion.

Mr. Rowbotham and four others, including David Cripps, 30, of Mississauga, were charged on January 8, 1974. Mr. Cripps and the others pleaded guilty last October to conspiracy to traffic in the ton of hashish and were given varying jail terms. Mr. Cripps got seven years in penitentiary.

Mr. Thornton testified that the Swiss account was opened as part of the operations of Sweetwater Trading Co., through which he and Mr. Rowbotham imported items from India and Scandinavian countries.

The store owner also said he and Mr. Rowbotham lent Mr. Cripps \$30,000 to help renovate a nursing home opened by Mr. Cripps' mother in Brampton. He said the nursing home folded and they lost all the money.

Mr. Thornton denied that because of the loan he put pressure on Mr. Cripps. He admitted under cross-examination that he did pay Mr. Cripps \$500 to smuggle about \$5,000 worth of jewelry from California into Canada for his Toronto store, Loon's Necklace. He said Mr. Cripps offered to do this.

Mr. Thornton testified that Mr. Cripps had told him he had a scheme through which he would pay back the loan.

(Mr. Cripps testified earlier that because of the loan, he was forced to transport drugs for Mr. Rowbotham. He also alleged that Rowbotham and a Toronto boutique owner were the brains behind the hashish smuggling. He also said he was testifying for the prosecution in order to get early parole and would do anything to get out of jail quickly.)

Mr. Thornton further testified that on January 8, 1974, the day when Rowbotham and the others were arrested, his telephone went dead and three RCMP officers raided his home, leaving it in a mess but not laying any charges against him.

Mr. Mailer said he met Mr. Rowbotham at Mr. Stratton's farm in Maine and discussed several things with him at the time.

He testified that after Mr. Rowbotham was arrested and charged, he came to Canada and met the accused several times because "I felt there was a potential miscarriage of justice building."

Judge Stephen Borins stopped the author at this point and asked the jury to disregard that statement.

Mr. Mailer testified that Mr. Rowbotham's arrest was "a tragic waste," something "disproportionate and excessive and bad for the cosmos."

He said the book Mr. Stratton was writing was about marijuana, Toronto's Rochdale College and drug culture, including drug trafficking.

Mr. Rowbotham, who has been described by several defence witnesses as a non-violent vegetarian, has said that he was a big-time marijuana dealer in Toronto and at Rochdale College but says he never dealt in hashish the subject of the charge against him.

The trial continues on Monday.

Rowbotham Testifies

Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 26 Apr 77 p 9

[Text] Brampton--A 26-year-old man charged with conspiracy to smuggle a ton of hashish described in court yesterday how his supplier would bring in 500 pounds of marijuana at a time from California and they would store it in the underground garage at Rochdale College in Toronto.

"We are talking about tons and tons and tons," Robert Rowbotham, formerly of Beeton, told an 11-member Peel County Court jury.

In reply to a question from his defence counsel, Moishe Reiter, as to why they never got caught, Mr. Rowbotham said: "The police never stopped anybody going into Rochdale, they always checked people coming out."

Mr. Rowbotham's defence is that he was one of the biggest marijuana dealers in the country but that he seldom dealt in hashish, the subject of the trial.

The accused testified that he started off in the late 1960s on a small scale with two other Rochdale residents supplying him. "There would be lineups outside my room on Friday and Saturday nights...about 15 to 20 people at a time."

He said the two people who supplied drugs to him also sold LSD, which they would get checked for strength and purity at either Addiction Research Foundation or the Clarke Institute.

"They (the two institutions) were helping to keep the garbage off the streets...they wouldn't phone the police because otherwise nobody would come to them," he said.

Mr. Rowbotham said he felt at home only with natural drugs and not "man-made drugs" like LSD. He said he stuck to marijuana because it came into Canada with more consistency than hashish and he could build up a regular clientele.

Mr. Rowbotham described his beginning in the drug trade. He said in the early 1960s he was convicted in his home town of Belleville for possession of half an ounce of marijuana.

He said although the marijuana was worth only about \$35 the local paper ran a front-page news story saying it was worth \$500 and that he lost his job washing trucks.

He said when he was sent to jail the principal of Belleville Collegiate Institute said "the drug problem has been cleared up."

Mr. Rowbotham then dropped out of Grade 12, borrowed \$10 from his mother and hitchhiked to Toronto where he got a room at Rochdale.

He said after trafficking in Rochdale, he then went to Vancouver in the late 1960s and in 1970 bought two pounds of marijuana, flew it to Toronto, and sold it in 10 minutes at Rochdale.

"The next time I bought four pounds and divided it into ounces. It was sold in 10 minutes... It got to a point where we (Rowbotham and his two partners) were taking 50 to 75 pounds of it and we would either catch the CNR train or rent a car," he testified.

The accused was testifying under protection of the Canada and Ontario Evidence Acts. Under the acts his testimony cannot be used in prosecuting him except for perjury.

Mr. Rowbotham said he soon met another Rochdale resident, who started supplying him with larger quantities, running to 500 pounds of marijuana and more. The accused said he started wholesaling in 1971 and even set up his own brother in business.

"I soon expanded my business out of Rochdale and into the rest of Toronto," Mr. Rowbotham said.

He said he invested in a natural food vegetarian restaurant in Rochdale and helped finance a clinic to treat people addicted to hard drugs which he was opposed to.

He said at the same time he also started getting involved in the music concert business.

Mr. Rowbotham continues his testimony today as the last witness in the trial.

The ton of hashish involved in the trial was seized by the RCMP from a Mississauga home after it was picked up from Toronto International Airport on the night of January 7, 1974.

David Cripps, 30, of Mississauga, and three others were arrested early on January 8 at a Mississauga home. Mr Rowbotham was arrested at his Beeton farm.

Mr. Cripps and the others pleaded guilty to conspiracy to traffick and were given varying jail terms. Mr. Cripps, who was given seven years in penitentiary, testified for the prosecution that Mr. Rowbotham and a Toronto boutique owner were the brains behind the smuggling of the hashish.

CSO: 5320

TRIO JAILED FOR SELLING MARIHUANA

Windsor THE WINDSOR STAR in English 14 Apr 77 p 5

[Text] Three Windsor men received jail sentences in Essex County Court Wednesday after they were convicted of selling a total of 70 pounds of marijuana to undercover RCMP officers.

Paul Robinson, 32, of Spring Garden Road, and John Dominas, 32, of Dawson Road were each sentenced to 18 months in reformatory. Gerald Robinson, 37, of Ouellette Avenue, a cousin of Paul, was sentenced to 2 1/2 months in jail.

Judge Joseph McMahon recommended Gerald Robinson be granted day parole so he could continue his employment.

In passing sentence, Judge McMahon said that, on the basis of pre-sentence reports and testimonials, the trio wasn't likely to commit a similar offence again. However, he was concerned that the sentence serve as a deterrent to others.

Court was told an undercover agent purchased 10 pounds of marijuana from Paul and Gerald Robinson for \$1,650 in April of 1975.

Later that month, the agent negotiated to purchase 60 pounds of marijuana from Paul and Dominas for \$15,000.

CSO: 5320

BRIEFS

FISHERMAN SENTENCED--Courtenay (CP)--A 30-year-old Nanaimo fisherman was sentenced to five years in prison and had his boat confiscated by the Crown for trafficking in marijuana. Ronald Richard Larsen pleaded guilty to the charge after RCMP arrested him last June 25 when he landed at Maple Bay, 35 miles north of Victoria, with 660 pounds of marijuana transported from the Olympic Peninsula in Washington. [Text] [Vancouver THE VANCOUVER SUN in English 9 Apr 77 p 96]

DRUG CASE ROUND-UP BEGINS--Regina (CP)--Police began a round-up Friday of 34 persons charged with 42 counts of trafficking in narcotics and controlled and restricted drugs. Sgt. John Hodgson of the RCMP drug section said the raids follow an intensive, five-month undercover operation in Regina. He said about half of those named in the warrants had been arrested by noon Friday, and searches were continuing for the remaining persons. He said the operation was aimed at medium-level drug traffickers and the offences named in the warrants include the illegal sale of heroin, cocaine, LSD, MDA, marijuana, hashish and speed. [Text] [Windsor THE WINDSOR STAR in English 23 Apr 77 p 8]

CSO: 5320

ARGENTINA

BRIEFS

COCAINE SEIZED--La Plata, 2 May--Four stevedores who had stumbled upon 5 kgs of cocaine when unloading a Belgian ship have been arrested by the local police when attempting to sell the drug valued at 50 million pesos, for approximately 1 million pesos. The stevedores are Edmundo Rojas, Ernesto Saucedo, Adalberto Berreta, and Alfredo Berreta. At the same time the police arrested Ruben Rojas, the purchaser of the drug. [Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1825 GMT 2 May 77 p PY]

CSO: 5300

BOLIVIA

BRIEFS

DRUG TRAFFICKERS DISCOVERED--The National Directorate for the Control of Dangerous Drugs has discovered a new case of drug trafficking in La Paz. According to information released, the discovery appears to be an important one in the struggle against the international Mafia, and has led to the arrest of several persons. A full report on this case, as well as on the cocaine factories discovered in Santa Cruz and Cochabamba at the beginning of the month, will be released to the press soon. [La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 15 Mar 77 p 4 PY]

CSO: 5300

CHILE

BRIEFS

COCAINE TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--Narcotics officials confiscated 556 gm of cocaine and 400 gm of an additive [unspecified] in a clandestine laboratory in the city of Concepcion. Mario Ogalde Gutierrez, Gerardo Fuentes and Victor Sanchez were arrested. [Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 16 Apr 77 p 37 PA]

CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

DRUG TRAFFICKER CAPTURED--Bogota, 28 Apr--The Colombian police today captured drug trafficker Ernestina Pena, who was found in possession of cocaine valued at \$500,000. Allegedly, the woman was to turn the drug over to a U.S. buyer, who was staying in a local hotel. The police captured her after a shootout that ended only when Pena ran out of ammunition. No casualties were reported. [Madrid EFE in Spanish 0028 GMT 29 Apr 77 PA]

MARIHUANA PLANTATION--The police today discovered 13,000 marihuana plants and several kilos of the drug ready for sale in a ranch a few kilometers from the city of Cucuta. The F-2 narcotics section captured Emilio Serrano Caceres, Victor Manuel Laso and Oscar Fuentes Ortiz. [Bogota Circuito Todelar in Spanish 0000 GMT 29 Apr 77 PA]

POLICE, TRAFFICKERS CLASH--Medellin--Two narcotics traffickers were captured by the police today following an intensive shootout. Both of them were wounded. One was identified as Jorge Majia Cardona. The authorities said that both were members of an important international narcotics trafficking ring. [Text] [Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 30 Apr 77 PA]

COCAINE LABORATORY DISCOVERED--Popayan, 25 Apr--The F-2 today discovered a cocaine laboratory in Tambo, Cauca Department, and arrested Reinaldo Antonio Velasquez, its owner. They also seized \$2 million worth of cocaine. [Madrid EFE in Spanish 0314 GMT 26 Apr 77 PA]

AUTHORITIES FIND BODIES, COCAINE--Villavicencio--The bodies of 15 persons were found by the authorities this morning near the town of El Retorno in (Baupet) territory. The bullet-ridden bodies were found by government officials investigating the murder of Liberal Party leader Javier de Jesus Bedoya. They apparently, died as the result of a clash between bands of narcotics traffickers since the authorities also found 14 kg of cocaine near the half-buried bodies. [Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 26 Apr 77 PA]

MEXICO

EFFORT TO HALT DRUG ADDICTION AMONG YOUTH

Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 24 Feb 77 p 11-I

[Text] Acting Police Inspector Ignacio Escobedo Quintero will have an official meeting in a few days with the board of directors of the National Chamber of Commerce of Matamoros and the owners of local hardware store and drug stores in order to work together to prevent the growth of vice among minors.

"It is a shame that the best of our people, the children, are lost to vice because of a lack of understanding on the part of their parents, the police authorities, and business, particularly the owners of businesses that unscrupulously sell industrial products to minors, which the child then uses to drug himself," said the head of the preventive police.

Ignacio Escobedo Quintero announced his upcoming meeting with local business yesterday, while talking with reporters about the cases of glue-sniffing children who are jailed daily as drug addicts.

"We have ten or more of these sad cases every day, but what most concerns us is that we do not have the technical or scientific resources in or out of jail to save the addicted child from industrial glue, thinner, Resistol, pills and other drugs," said the police chief.

He then pointed out the importance of the cooperation of established business in Matamoros in the fight against vice that the preventive police have begun.

"We know, because the children we arrest tell us, who and which are the businessmen and businesses that sell minors the industrial product with which children drug and poison themselves." He further explained, "but it is not our intention to go directly against those merchants because that is not our role, aside from the fact that there is no law in Tamaulipas to punish someone who sells an industrial product that addicts then turn into a drug or intoxicant."

The police inspector said he would appeal to the conscience, the good faith, and the feelings of the businessman in his meeting with the merchants of

Matamoros, to work together on a task that will have a great effect on the future of Matamoros.

"I believe in altruistic feelings of the people of Matamoros, and therefore I do not believe that the local merchant is going to leave us alone in this case where we are striving together, much less where it concerns our youth," said Escobedo Quintero. He said that among other things he was going to ask businesses not to sell industrial products or "glue" to children.

The head of the police also recalled that not long ago, last month, the congresses of Jalisco and the State of Mexico passed a law to severely punish merchants who sell minors industrial products that are easily turned into drugs. Punishments were to include jail-terms, administrative sanctions, or fines.

8587
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

CIUDAD MIER MARIHUANA TO BE BURNED

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO DE NUEVO LAREDO in Spanish 16 Mar 77 p 3-B

[Text] Careful investigations by the Federal Judicial Police with regard to the shipment of marihuana found last week in a warehouse in the river town of Ciudad Mier have ascertained that the drug comes from the epicenter of production and distribution of drugs, Culiacan, Sinaloa.

"Undoubtedly," said Ricardo Hoyos Arizpe, "It is one of the heaviest blows ever against the poisoners, since 9 million pesos that they were to receive for passing the drug will today be turned to ashes when it is burned at the Macario Zamora barracks."

Passed Shipment

It has been noted that from the same warehouse, the owners of the marihuana were able to get 4 or 5 tons of marihuana which they passed to the neighboring country.

The Federal Public Ministry supposes that the shipment of drugs passed through on a Monterrey highway on the way to the border with Matamoros, where the Federal Judicial Police were able to catch some of the drug traffickers but not the object of the crime.

Owners of the Warehouse Known

By putting two and two together, the Federal [Public Ministry] was able to find out that those who have the almost 9 tons of Devil's weed are residents of Ciudad Mier. The ministry is working with complete reserve to prevent the escape of the gang leaders.

It was also found out unofficially that people on this border are involved in these matters and the Federal Police are just waiting for an opportune moment to proceed against them.

The 9 tons of marihuana will be taken tomorrow to the Macario Zamora Military Barracks, where at 1200 hours it will be burned in the presence of witnesses.



8587
CSO: 5330

PERU

INVESTIGATION OF PRISON ESCAPES CONTINUES

Traffickers Escape Prison Using Forged Documents

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 20 Mar 77 p 14

[Text] At least eight Colombian drug traffickers escaped from jail in this city using forged release orders.

A still undetermined number of Peruvian and foreign traffickers have also escaped through that illegal "release system."

This is the result so far of the careful investigation that the PIP [Peruvian Investigative Police] is making with the Attorney General's Office under Attorney General Nelson Diaz Pomar.

The investigations began right after the escapes of Colombian drug traffickers Rafael Alberto Cruzat and Reynaldo Valencia Quijano.

The former escaped when he was taken from the Palace of Justice to an attorney's office in the Republican Building. The latter escaped from the Lurigancho Jail because of a release order issued by the Fifth Correctional Court with the forged signature of the secretary.

The investigations thus far have disclosed a real business in forged release orders.

The conclusion has been reached that at least eight Colombian citizens arrested in our country for illegal drug traffic have vanished from their prisons.

It has also been proven that they got out of jail with forged release orders and that those orders would have been processed by the same lawyer who is apparently in Colombia.

The same investigations have revealed that many others accused of illegal drug traffic are no longer in prison in spite of the fact that they were not granted provisional or unconditional releases.

Arrests Made in Prison Escapes

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 27 Mar 77 p 12

[Text] Seven people have been arrested for connections with the "Mafia" that illegally freed Colombian drug traffickers.

The dragnet deployed after careful investigation about the organization to protect Colombian traffickers who were arrested in this country is almost finished.

The names of those arrested were not released by the Palace of Justice.

It was said that, through them, it will be possible to learn exactly by whom and by what means the forged release orders with which the Colombian drug traffickers managed to escape jails in this city were obtained.

Dr Guillermo Valdiviezo Mendez, president judge of the Sixth Court of Proceedings, only said that details of the way the "Mafia" acted will be made public in the final report that he will send to the corresponding Correctional Court in Lima.

He was excused from giving further information because of the confidentiality that is established by law in any criminal proceeding.

Nevertheless, it was learned from alleged Palace of Justice sources that some judicial officials and members of the Republican Guard were implicated after the arrests.

Further Details of Escapes

Lima LA PRENSA in Spanish 3 Apr 77 p 10

[Text] Nine Colombian drug traffickers have eluded Peruvian justice by escaping from Lurigancho Jail with forged release orders according to the investigation that Judge Guillermo Valdivieso Mendez is carrying out.

Those "orders"--some with the signature and seal of a judge and others signed by the president and secretary of a court--were forged by attorney Roberto Arrospi de Valencia who has fled.

It was learned from court sources that these letters in which a judicial authority "ordered the unconditional release" of the drug traffickers were improperly processed through the General Office of Correctional Institutions. The employees did not compare the signatures with those of the officials that are kept on record there.

Two officials and five employees of the General Office of Prisons are under investigation.

The nine criminals who have managed to leave the country belonged to different rings of drug traffickers and were being tried in different courts in this capital.

The escapes were discovered when the courts summoned the prisoners for their hearings. The first investigation disclosed that the nine drug traffickers used the same system of "orders of unconditional release" to escape.

7717

CSO: 5300

PERU

TRAFFICKER ATTEMPTS TO BRIBE CUSTOMS OFFICIALS

Lima LA PRENSA in Spanish 31 Mar 77 p 1

[Article by Julio C. Zereceda: "Cocaine Worth 55 Million Soles Found; Bribe of 1.2 Million Soles Offered"]

[Text] Tacna, 30 Mar--More than 26 kilos of chloral hydrate of cocaine valued at about 55 million soles were confiscated from a driver who tried to bribe the customs officers in Tacna with 1.2 million soles to let him continue his trip to Lima with the drugs.

The cocaine was packed in 1-kilo bags and was hidden in the trunk and back seat of the automobile, license plates AK-3923, driven by 34-year-old Victor Rodrigo Palomares Lucen.

Palomares used canned foods, Chilean wines, dried fruit and a mini-calculator to confuse the customs officers. The head of the Camiara Customs Guard, Felipe Guevara Diaz, ordered the confiscation of that merchandise and a thorough search of the vehicle.

Guards Guido Cornejo Tejada and Obdulio Muro Mori searched the car and found the cocaine hidden in packages.

When he saw that he was discovered, Palomares offered 300,000 soles to the three guards in Camiara and to the administrator of Tacna Customs Headquarters, Reynaldo Rovay. The bribe was refused and Palomares was arrested and taken to the PIP [Peruvian Investigative Police].

Palomares Lucen confessed that the cocaine was to be delivered to a Lima parking lot next to the Bank of the Nation on Avenida 28 de Julio. He did not say who was to be the recipient.

The driver indicated that his car had been rented for 50,000 soles to deliver the merchandise to Lima. He did not say who paid for his services and said that he did not know what type of merchandise he was transporting to the capital.

PERU

BRIEFS

DRUGS BURNED--Drugs valued at more than 100 million soles on the international black market were seized by the PIP [Peruvian Investigative Police] from different drug traffickers who were arrested recently. The drugs will be burned today at 1200 hours at a place along the Central Highway in the presence of the minister of interior, Army Gen Luis Cisneros Vizquerra. The PIP will burn 10 kilos of pure cocaine, 1,041 kilos of cocaine paste, 1,092 kilos of marijuana, 530 Mandrax pills, a large quantity of coca leaves, drums of sulfuric acid and other chemical products seized by the PIP. A notary public and representatives from the Ministry of Health will also be present. Last year drugs valued at 200 million soles were burned in the Chillon sector (La Pampa de los Perros). [Text] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 22 Mar 77 p 18] 7717

TRAFFICKER ARRESTED--A man involved in the "retail" sale of cocaine paste at the entrances of theaters and parks in the San Martin de Porres district has been arrested by the PIP. He is being investigated by the Narcotics Division. The PIP reported that 37-year-old Juan Chavez Ampuero was arrested in his residence located in the same district where he has operated for a year. The police found 94 1-gram packages of cocaine paste in his possession. Each package was sold to minors or adults for 200 soles. The arrested man revealed to the police that he has sold this drug for a year. He bought it from other people whom the police are seeking. [Text] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 27 Mar 77 p 43] 7717

LARGE DRUG RAID--Early yesterday morning the Civil Guard using police dogs raided 13 residences in La Victoria and El Porvenir and arrested 34 men and women involved in the sale of chloral hydrate of cocaine, cocaine paste and marijuana. It was one of the largest police raids ever. The "dragnet" worked by chiefs of the Civil Guard, subordinate personnel and police dogs from the Potao Barracks started at 0100 hours and lasted until dawn yesterday. Residences

on Renovacion, Londres, Garcia Naranjo and Jose Galvez streets in La Victoria and other private homes on Prolongacion, 28 de Julio, Pisagua, San Pablo, Bolivar and Giribaldi in the El Porvenir sector were raided. Ringleaders Teobaldo Ramos Macera alias "Tribilin," Armando Lino Venturini alias "Candela," Santiago Pomareda Soto alias "Loco" and Liliana de Espinoza were arrested. All have police records for trafficking in drugs. Another 30 men and women were arrested by the police for retail selling of cocaine and cocaine paste. In their possession were 143 envelopes which the police confiscated; each contained 1 gram of cocaine according to what was reported at the La Victoria Police Station. The "dragnet" was carried out in coordination with the Police Dog Corps. [Text] [Lima LA PRENSA in Spanish 29 Mar 77 p 1] 7717

CSO: 5300

URUGUAY

DRUG BRIGADE SUCCESSFUL IN THWARTING TRAFFICKERS

Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 29 Mar 77 p 12

[Text] One of the most important--if not the major--subjects to be addressed by the Sixth American Regional Interpol Conference is the issue of drug trafficking and therefore, the report specially prepared by the Uruguayan delegation will be carefully considered. This report will be presented by the head of the Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs Brigade, Chief Commissioner Hugo Campos Hermida.

Uruguayan efforts, which began during the last quarter of 1972, were successful in breaking up several international bands devoted to large-scale drug trafficking. By arresting 22 drug traffickers who were operating on a world-wide scale and placing nine of them in the hands of the proper authorities, drug trafficking in our country was practically wiped out. Up to this time, Uruguay had been used as a "trampolin" or "bridgehead" for subsequent shipment of drugs to other South American countries. In several cases these drugs were smuggled into the United States.

Statements made yesterday by Montevideo police chief, Col Alberto O. Ballestrino in a separate news conference corroborated the beforementioned comments. According to Ballestrino, the efficiency of the methods as well as the perseverance of the officials in the Intelligence Directorate, which came together as a specialized corps in May 1973, led to the arrest of known traffickers and caused others to flee the country. However, through investigations carried out in our country, they were later captured in foreign countries.

The on-going preventative work by the Narcotics Brigade has prevented the entrance of heroin into our country and the consumption and trafficking of hallucinogens and psychotropics as well as various opiates have decreased considerably, now that drug addiction in our country is under control, if indeed it exists, and trafficking at the international level has been absolutely broken up.

Eloquent Statistics

According to division statistics, since its inception, the Narcotics Brigade has compiled dossiers on 3,500 persons--1,500 on Interpol warrants and the other 2,000 through investigations by the Narcotics Brigade.

Also, the total number of persons indicted for trafficking and supplying has been divided according to the type of drug involved.

For marihuana during the last quarter of 1972, 24 persons were indicted; in 1973, 36 persons; in 1974, 46 persons; in 1975, 20 persons; and in 1976, 54 persons. For amphetamines, 14 persons were indicted during a 3-month period in 1972; in 1973, 99; in 1974, 63; in 1975, 25 and in 1976, 45. For cocaine, 10 were indicted in the last quarter of 1972; 12 in 1973, 4 in 1974; 3 in 1975 and 1 in 1976.

It should be pointed out that international traffickers in the brigade files rose to 253, 22 of which were arrested in Uruguay. Eleven were indicted in our country and the rest opted to be remanded to the countries issuing the warrants for their arrests.

CSO: 5300

DRUG RING SPECIALIZING IN 'HOME DELIVERY' CAPTURED

Caracas ULTIMAS NOTICIAS in Spanish 23 Mar 77 p 35

[Article by Freddy Urbina]

[Text] Forces attached to the Intelligence and Antivice Division of the Metropolitan Police, in continuation of the vast metropolitan area cleanup operation of drug traffickers, neighborhood criminals and delinquents, succeeded in capturing several of them and seizing various kinds of drugs, firearms, bullets and a jeep which they were using to drive to outlying areas to distribute their drugs.

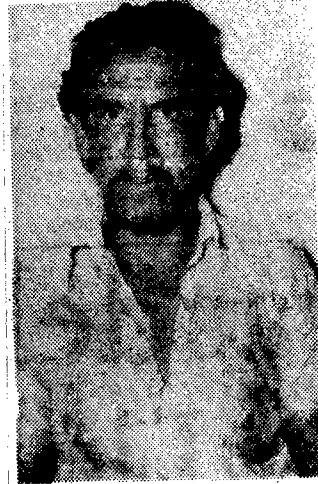
In the reports furnished through said police institution's press office, it was learned that three accused neighborhood criminals in el Paraiso, Catia and 23 Enero, who were identified as Rodolfo Velasco, Carlos Ibarra Pino and Euro Pena Campos, had more than 100 pounds of marihuana confiscated from them as well as bags and firearms.

They also captured Olivares Buitrago, accused of distributing cocaine in the Parroquia Altagracia, from whom they confiscated 50 grams of the drug which he had in his possession. Also arrested, in the San Agustin del Sur sector, was Elvira Josefina Mendez, who had in her possession 1 and 1/2 pounds of marihuana as well as several bags for sale to her customers in the southern part of the city.

Finally, in the area of Block 10 of Ruiz Pineda, arrested when they were driving in a jeep with license plates AMP 128, were the driver, German Abel Patino Serrano, age 31, and his companions, Cesar Jose Velasquez, age 20, and Gilberto Rafael Bastidas Deyan, age 28. From the first, they confiscated several things and from the second several presumably hallucinogenic pills, while inside the vehicle, they found more than 20 38 cal revolver bullets which they turned over to the Intelligence Division for investigation.



Olivares Buitriago, arrested by the PM, was named as the cocaine distributor in Parroquia Altagracia. They confiscated the drug from him.



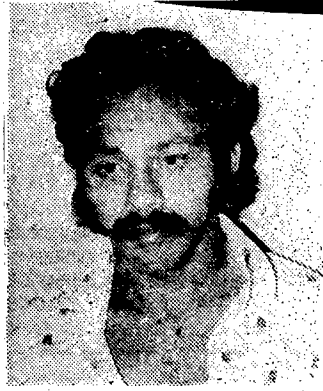
Rodolfo Velasco, a criminal from El Paraiso, was arrested and more than 100 pounds of marihuana was confiscated from him.



Elvira Josefina Mendez was arrested by Metropolitan Police [PM] in San Agustin del Sur, accused of distributing drugs.



Carlos Ibarra Pino was arrested by the PM as a criminal from 23 de Enero and distributor of marihuana.



Euro Pena Campos was arrested by the PM
for distributing marihuana in Catia.
Part of the drug was confiscated from him.

11937
CSO: 5300

EGYPT

BRIEFS

DRUGS SEIZED--The Border Guard Intelligence has foiled a second attempt during April to smuggle drugs into Egypt. Some 40 packets containing 1.5 tons of hashish estimated at 2.5 million pounds and 10 kg of opium valued at 1 million pounds have been seized, Brig Sayyid At-Tarabulsi, commander of the Border Guard Intelligence, told AL-AKHBAR. At-Tarabulsi said that information had been received about the formation of a new gang consisting of foreigners resident in Cairo and Bedouins from Sidi Kurayr in the Western desert. The gang had agreed to smuggle large quantities of drugs via Sidi Kurayr. According to information, one of the gang went to Lebanon to ship the drugs and there agreed with a foreign vessel to carry the drugs to the Sidi Kurayr area and to deposit them opposite the house of Haybah Al-Hawwari, immediately on the shore in Mazari' At-Tin area. [Excerpts] [Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 29 Apr 77 p 9 LD]

CSO: 4802

IRAN

BRIEFS

MAN JAILED FOR HEROIN--A 28-year old man, who has been arrested and jailed numerous times for possession and distribution of heroin to addicts, was sentenced yesterday to 6 years in jail for the same crime. This man, Davod Kabiri, during the last 11 years has been arrested and jailed four times for possession of heroin, three times for theft, one time for heroin use, once for [auto] theft and driving without a license, once for public gambling, and once for concealing opium products. This last time he was arrested by narcotics officials, he was carrying 75 packets of heroin. In addition to the jail sentence, he was also fined 27,000 riyals. [Teheran ETTELA'AT in Persian 12 Apr 77 p 22]

CSO: 5300

FRANCE

BRIEFS

LSA SEIZED--French Customs here seized 1,400 LSD tablets on the Belgian frontier. The drug was hidden in a car returning to France from Amsterdam with four young French people. [Text] [London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 2 Apr 77 p 19]

HEROIN HAUL AT AIRPORT--Seventy-two pounds of heroin valued at about 1,170,000 pounds was found yesterday by customs officers at Charles de Gaulle Airport, Paris. The drug was in suitcases. Duang Ratana, 22, son of the Thai military attache, and another Thai were later arrested and held on the orders of a judge at Bobigny, outside Paris. [Text] [London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 9 Apr 77 p 5]

CSO: 5320

NETHERLANDS

POLICE GET GRIP ON AMSTERDAM HEROIN MARKET

The Hague ALGEMEEN NEDERLANDS PERSBUREAU in English 20 Apr 77 pp 2-4

[Text] Amsterdam, April 20--Police believe they are getting the upper hand against the Chinese gangs who turned Amsterdam into the heroin capital of Europe.

Record seizures by police and customs men, tougher penalties for trafficking and smuggling, and a ruthless crackdown against illegal immigrants from the Chinese communities of Hong Kong and southeast Asia have pushed the black market price of heroin to dizzying heights.

"A year ago the price of a gram of Chinese heroin--"brown sugar"--was around 70 guilders. Today it's 400 or 500 guilders", Amsterdam Police Commissioner Gerard Toorenaar told REUTERS' Hague-based correspondent John Morrison.

Commissioner Toorenaar, the city's top criminal investigator, cited the figures in a recent interview as evidence that the tide is now turning.

"We don't like every colleague in Europe pointing their fingers at us", the burly drugs expert explained. "We can't root out the heroin trade entirely, but we can cut it down to the level of any other European city. Come back in six months and you'll see."

Shift to London?

Mr Toorenaar says the lucrative black market is likely to move elsewhere, probably to London, now that Holland is too dangerous.

"Just wait until the police there find a rash of unexplained Chinese crimes and murders. That's what we had to begin with, but we didn't realize what it meant."

The biggest factor in forcing the heroin trade on to the run has been a program to deport illegal Chinese residents which started on November 1 last year.

Amsterdam's close-knit Chinese community based on restaurants, gaming houses and clubs has been heavily reduced. A special 15-man squad of the Dutch Royal Constabulary has taken more than 400 Chinese deportees back to Hong Kong, Malaysia and Thailand by air at a cost of several millions of guilders.

At least four of those deported were former Chinese members of the Royal Hong Kong Police who were active in the Amsterdam underworld.

Illegals Decimated

Thousands of other Chinese decided not to wait but slip out of the country voluntarily.

"Only three of those we deported have come back and there was a big number who went home for the Chinese New Year and decided not to return," says Mr Toorenaar.

Now probably about a thousand Chinese remain in the city illegally, a tenth of the number who were here a year ago, blending into Amsterdam's legal Chinese community, about 1,800 strong.

It was the cover provided by this "Chinese presence," dating back half a century or more, which led the bosses of the international narcotics trade to Amsterdam in the early 1970's.

They were happy to settle in a country with first-class communications and ports open borders and antiquated drug laws which threatened them with four years in jail at the worst.

At first no one realized what was happening, except the addicts and dealers from all over Europe who flocked to Amsterdam to buy heroin at bargain prices.

New Drugs Law

The police, Mr Toorenaar admits, were slow to understand the Chinese 'triads' (secret societies) which controlled the heroin trade from southeast Asia.

Eventually Dutch politicians, spurred by criticism from other European countries produced a new drugs law last year which came into force on November 1.

Penalties for possessing less than 30 grams of hashish were cut to a maximum of a month's jail or a 500 guilders' fine, but the penalties for smuggling hard drugs went up to 12 years maximum.

The first trials under the new law will start shortly, and police are waiting to see how stiff the sentences will be. But the tougher penalties have already had a deterrent effect. Also in the last year, drug squads across the country have been strengthened.

Coordination

The Justice Ministry now has its own drugs squad to coordinate investigations by local police, and there is a close link with experts from the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration at the American Embassy in The Hague.

A Dutch detective has been posted to the Netherlands Embassy in Bangkok, the city now regarded as the principal departure point for the heroin reaching Europe.

The trade in "brown sugar", or the grey granules of heroin also known as "number three", leads from the remote areas of the so-called golden triangle around the borders of Thailand, Burma and Laos.

No one knows just how much heroin has been flowing into Amsterdam over the past five years. Customs men have found it in air mail letters weighing only a few grams, in aerosol cans and false-bottomed luggage carried by couriers.

There have also been massive shipments intercepted--138 kilograms in Bangkok last year and 126 kilos, Europe's biggest ever haul, in a freight container from Bangkok on a Rotterdam dockside in March.

Horrified

The Rotterdam seizure, hidden in a load of rubber bands, would have been worth between 45 and 90 million guilders. Dutch officials were amazed by the scale of these two hauls and horrified by the thought of how many similar shipments had possibly gone undetected.

In 1971 Dutch authorities seized a mere 50 grams of heroin, and two kilos the following year. In 1973 it was 25 kilos then 28 and 59 kilos in the next two years. Last year it was 172 kilos but only with this year's big hauls has the black market price risen appreciably.

Mr Toorenaar hoped the high prices will keep away the swarms of German, French and other European addicts who used to descend on Amsterdam each summer.

But the city still has an estimated 10,000 resident addicts and the Dutch Government is only starting to develop ways of treating them.

Meanwhile, Mr Toorenaar's next target is likely to be the huge soft drugs black market. Over 10 tons of hashish were seized in Amsterdam last year.

CSO: 5300

SWEDEN

PREVENTIVE PROGRAMS TO COUNTER HEROIN ADDICTION OUTLINED

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 3 Mar 77 p 52

[Article by Leif Dahlin, Sven Hallen, Anders Olsson: "Misuse of Heroin Increasing But No 'Explosion'"]

[Text] "It is not a catastrophic situation we now have, no heroin explosion, but we must reckon with continued strong pressure from heroin smuggling and illegal trade aimed at Sweden, and thereby also increased misuse of heroin," says department chief Jan Ording of the alcohol and narcotics section of the Social Department.

"Such is at least the unanimous judgement of the working group for narcotics question of the Crime Prevention Council, which has been following the development for a few years and ought to have the best overview."

Right now we can count on a few thousand heroin addicts in Stockholm and perhaps equally many in other Swedish cities altogether, and we have received clear indications of an alarming new recruitment, in part of young people who are entirely new in the narcotics market. At the same time, the demand for hashish seems to have declined somewhat, and also that of centrally stimulating preparations, at least in Stockholm, which is reflected in decreasing prices. For heroin, the current price is high: 1,000 crowns for 1 gram, but it seems to hold steady.

The recent deaths due to overdoses are also alarming. In some cases they seem due to the fact that addicts who have switched from other narcotics or heroin addicts who relapse after a period of abstinence are not able to judge their tolerance ability and therefore cannot adjust the dose correctly.

Strychnine

But it also occurs that heroin is sold mixed with various substances, which naturally can tempt addicts into taking too large a dose. There have also been cases of heroin mixed with the poison strychnine -- which has the capability of reducing the high and thus provides faster sales -- but it has not been proved whether this is the cause of any deaths. We now intend to scrutinize the autopsy results at the forensic medical stations in order

to fully clarify the heroin deaths, and at the end of March a conference on the problems of treatment will be arranged, with a special view to heroin.

The largest group of addicts is people between the ages of 20 and 30 years and up to 40, while new recruitment is mostly of young people. The distribution according to sex is about one woman for every three men, but the tendency seems to indicate increased female participation. And unfortunately we must perhaps count on a certain overall increase.

"Concerning deaths among narcotics addicts and in particular heroin addicts it is always difficult to determine whether there is suicide, an accident or a crime behind it, but a clear self-destructive tendency can be discerned in most addicts," says Dr Lisbeth Palmgren, a consultant to the Social Department on narcotics questions and a forensic psychiatrist with great experience in the narcotics field.

Severely Disturbed

They know very well that they ruin their lives, but they do it in order to escape from serious internal feelings of guilt and pain which most of them acquired during childhood; an alcoholic father and a sick mother, which is the background for many, have not had the ability to give them the tenderness and security which every child needs. One should not therefore say that narcotics addiction is the "fault of the parents," that would be seriously unjust, but intent and ability are two widely different matters and there is also other emotional stress in the picture.

Treatment must then primarily be directed toward solving the psychological disturbances which have been the driving force of the addiction, a difficult but not impossible task. Not least, a better research foundation would be needed. As far as the conflict between the advocates of compulsory treatment and those who prefer the voluntary line it might perhaps be said that voluntary treatment became necessary after compulsory treatment failed; no matter how one proceeds, the requirement must be that the least possible harm should be caused by the treatment, and here compulsory treatment has shown a dismal record, as reported in many places.

What is alarming in today's situation is that narcotics addiction always demands both a strongly driving personal motive and a good supply of narcotics.

Unemployment

Right now it can perhaps be guessed that a large part of the "risk group," more or less emotionally disturbed, psychologically burdened, have already joined the ranks of addicts. But it must also be assumed that temporary motives -- puberty disturbances in teenagers, for example -- can all too easily lead to addiction and a lasting dependence when narcotics are easily available. It can provide a certain new recruitment of young people whose disturbances would otherwise have healed by themselves.

Another similar effect is often caused by unemployment among youths; it provides a feeling of minority, of rejection. This is why youth unemployment which is so prevalent now is perhaps the greatest danger, in combination with widespread smuggling and illegal trade of narcotics. Mere "curiosity addiction," largely of hashish, seems less dangerous in comparison: When the personal motive is not sufficiently strong many give up the addiction by themselves, before it has had time to become a serious dependence.

The question of whether we must count on some narcotic even worse than heroin within a few years can be difficult to answer, but so far we do not know of any. Heroin is by comparison the most dangerous one, partly as a poison and partly because it results in such a rapid dependence. There might possibly be hope that the addiction will reach a balanced level in this case as well.

Hard Line

There are, as was mentioned, different views regarding the manner in which the wave of narcotics is to be reduced. One way is advocated by leading officials in the Social Department and other social care agencies: the voluntary line. Another is the harder line, which Dr Nils Bejerot, among others, has spoken in favor of, with a certain amount of support from the police and the RNS association, the National Association for a Society Free of Narcotics. There, the narcotics campaign in Japan at the end of the fifties is often pointed out as an exemplary model,

"Our opinion is in fact shared by many who do not dare express themselves in the debate, since it can be risky for the career in the Social Department and social agencies -- I have experienced that -- but it ought to be clear to all who want to see that the present laissez-faire system leads straight toward catastrophe," says one of the spokesmen for the group, social inspector Gustav Griehsel, who during 1966-73 had responsibility for the social care at the Maria policlinic and has since worked in the RNS, among other places.

"The wave of narcotics seriously began with the central stimulants -- amphetamine, prelude -- in 1966 and was followed by hashish in 1967. In 1968 the morphine base came onto the market and in 1972 the first heroin cases. The number of cases increased rapidly and it was easier to follow how the addicts -- the majority of them youths -- switched to increasingly harder drugs as the preparations came onto the market, regardless of prices and hazards.

Firm Measures

To begin with, forced measures were used -- according to valid child care law -- but these gradually met with protests, especially by the younger personnel, and other rehabilitation institutions were set up which work according to the voluntary line. No one has been able to show a better result through these -- rather on the contrary -- but voluntary sounds better and is in fashion.

Sooner or later, however, firm measures must be adopted in order not to let the problem grow and simply write off a certain percentage of Swedish youth as drug victims, he says. And the problem is growing: a heroin dealer who himself is an addict (which is the usual, except among major dealers) must get a new customer almost every day, and voluntary treatment only gives the addicts time to rest for a while, in order later to return to the drug dealers.

Right now we must reckon with at least 20,000 narcotics addicts of all kinds in Sweden (if we also include the ones who only smoke a little hashish now and then, but who thereby are in the danger zone as well) and almost 2,000 "steady" heroin users, the majority of them in Stockholm.

The only realistic possibility is to follow the Japanese example: intern the majority of the serious addicts and primarily the dealers and keep them for a couple, three years, in Gustav Griehsel's opinion. In this manner, we could reduce illegal trafficking and smuggling and get the situation under control once and for all. This requires a firm political will and new laws, to be sure, but all other measures only remain empty gestures.

This Aid Exists

"A given question is, of course, what we are doing about the problem. In fact, we are doing quite a lot: At 17 open counseling offices, at 118 alcohol policlinics which are also open to drug addicts, more than 25 treatment collectives under the management of the RFHL /expansion unknown/, supported by the regional assemblies, and 22 treatment homes under the management of the regional assemblies, with a total of 215 spaces," says department chief Jan Ordning.

There is further a system with individual home care for narcotics addicts in 25 different municipal districts -- mostly around the country -- and at 1,500 boarding houses for alcoholics drug addicts are also received. The same is true for nine individual treatment centers for alcoholics; child and juvenile care homes also provide temporary care, and at the 18 juvenile care schools almost 70 percent of the 530 spaces are occupied by drug addicts.

At the narcotics addiction clinics within the psychiatric care there are 120 spaces for narcotics addicts, and emergency treatment is also provided in the physical care section. Naturally, we would need more spaces in spite of this, but of 100 new spaces demanded we now recently got 40. The need might be in the vicinity of 1,000 new spaces.

The treatment is primarily aimed at voluntary demand for help -- as long as we have a waiting list for the treatment homes and waiting times of up to 6 months we can scarcely adopt any other line -- but forcible measures do occur when it is a matter of juvenile care schools and in certain cases psychiatric care.

'Heroin Death Shows That Force Is Needed'

The recent heroin tragedies in Stockholm involving dead or seriously injured young people constitutes additional proof that it could be necessary to resort to coercion in social care. This is maintained by Social Minister Rune Gustavsson (Center Party).

Physicians criticize the laws which say that an addict must seek treatment by himself. He cannot be forced. But the addict does not have the strength to seek treatment voluntarily, in the physicians' opinion.

"I share the same opinion as the doctors in this matter," says Gustavsson. "But when I first presented this opinion I was almost skinned alive by the social workers."

"Here it is a matter of helping people in an emergency and then one is not allowed to get stuck in ideologies which prohibit intervention. I ask the social workers who attacked me last fall and who continue to attack me:

"Is society to stand alongside and watch young people go under? Personally, I believe that it is inhuman."

The social minister believes that society must act with regard to people who in this case do not comprehend their own situation. In his opinion, there is yet another aspect of the problem:

"To use heroin costs 1,000 crowns or more per day, according to information. How do young drug addicts get hold of that much money? Narcotics thus also breed incomparable criminality and that we cannot accept."

New Lethal Narcotic

A new lethal narcotic has shown up in Sweden. Some time ago, the Helsingborg customs confiscated from a traveller from abroad a narcotic preparation which turned out to contain cocaine and lidocaine. The latter is a very common anaesthetic.

The mixing of lidocaine into the drug preparations which are injected into the blood can have very serious effects, it is pointed out in the medical journal by senior physician Lennart Klang, Malmo, who in a letter has alerted the Social Department about the confiscation. If the preparation which is injected contains for example 60 percent lidocaine, a lethally dangerous situation can soon occur.

The fact that the narcotics dealers are trying to bring a cocaine-lidocaine mixture onto the Swedish market can have many explanations, according to Dr Klang. One possibility is that the dealers are first introducing this mixture in order later to sell lidocaine as cocaine.

In Norway as well, cocaine-lidocaine has recently been confiscated.

64 Suspects Have Telephones Bugged

The number of telephone bugs in connection with the narcotics investigation by the police increased from 42 in 1975 to 64 last year. According to police chief Carl Persson, the increase depends on the marked increase of amphetamine and heroin smuggling to Sweden last year.

Only a court can grant permission for bugging. Permission is given for a maximum of 1 month at a time. The figures for 1968-1976 are the following:

1969-28, 1970-39, 1971-44, 1972-34, 1973-46, 1974-44, 1975-42 and 1976-64.

Naturally, the bugging periods have varied in length, but the majority lasted 2 months or less. In the majority of cases the suspicions of illegal drug traffic were confirmed.

National Police Proposes 10-Point Program

There is no longer time for any far-reaching studies about addict treatment. The narcotics problem cannot be resolved with police efforts alone. This was pointed out by National Police Chief Carl Persson while calling on Minister of Justice Sven Romanus on Wednesday. The national police chief presented a 10-point program for combating the narcotics trade. Among other things, he considered it necessary to have a coordination program which is directly tied to the government.

Besides the minister of justice, the social and commerce ministers were also present and the calling delegation consisted of the national police chief, General Customs Director Lennart Eriksson, the police chiefs from Stockholm, Gothenburg and Malmo, representatives of the Regional Police Association and the Crime Prevention Council (BRA).

The gangs which control the heroin trade are very well organized, said the police and the customs.

Connections have been established between the so-called Chinese syndicates in Amsterdam and Chinese living in this country. It can also be suspected that certain of the Chinese restaurants which in recent years have sprung up in Sweden are perhaps playing a role in distribution connections by serving as camouflage for narcotics shipment recipients who are active here. Parallel to a smuggling of heroin, which comes to Sweden via Amsterdam, direct smuggling of heroin from Thailand to Sweden seems to be going on. Only scattered details of this traffic are known to the Swedish police, however.

It is known that the so-called Bangkok Chinese who travel to Amsterdam as couriers are often sent in "swarms" of 8-10 people. Every courier then has no more than 1-2 kilograms in his luggage. The philosophy behind this is that "someone will always get through." It has happened that one courier has been sacrificed in customs in order to draw attention away from the

others. There are indications that there are efforts to recruit European couriers as well, since the police at European airports have begun to devote great attention to Southeast Asians.

In his 10-point program, the national police chief emphasized the following, briefly:

1. The smuggling of hashish and amphetamine has increased and become more organized. Most serious is the spreading of heroin. There is no doubt that a large part of crime (among others gambling clubs, brothels, prostitution and so on) has connections with narcotics. As long as demand remains unchanged, the prospects of profit become so great and the pressure of smuggling so hard that customs and police cannot stand up to them.

Better Treatment

2. At a meeting with all the police chiefs in the country in December of last year, it was decided that police efforts against illegal narcotics trade would have priority at the cost of other police activity. About 20 units have been formed. The assigned police force has been increased from 240 to 330 in one month.

3. The police has long maintained that the only way to check the misuse of narcotics is to substantially improve the treatment efforts. The addicts must be given help and care to a far greater extent than before. It is essential to make use of all projects with alternative forms of treatment which have been tried in recent years.

4. There is a plentiful supply of narcotics in the institutions. Those admitted who are not already addicted run the risk of becoming so. In the prisons an "elite" is often created which controls the trade and terrorizes the fellow inmates. The supply of drugs must be halted. Furthermore, the major narcotics dealers must no longer be allowed unrestricted communication with the outside world.

Long Sentences

5. In the last 8 to 10 years, police have seized several serious narcotics criminals. The courts have sentenced them to long prison terms. But in criminal care the system of leave, free passage and so on is used to a considerable extent for serious narcotics criminals as well. These privileges are often used for the purpose of continued criminal activity. The differentiation intended by society in the treatment of serious narcotics criminals must be put into practice.

6. Scientific studies show that a limited group of habitual criminals in Stockholm, Gothenburg and Malmo are responsible for a disproportionate part of crime, above all burglaries. This group is seriously influenced by alcohol and narcotics. The present practice in criminal policy of treatment at liberty without efficient support has forced this group into an unending circle of crime. Powerful social support measures must be employed.

7. In various connections it has come out that certain gambling clubs, sex clubs and restaurants have functioned as important links in the drug trade.

Camouflage

It is also suspected that certain types of restaurants act as essential links in the narcotics trade and that they serve as camouflage so that the people who are involved in the narcotics trade can stay in this country.

8. It is important that factual information is given about narcotics and their effects. In connection with the 1969 campaign against the misuse of narcotics an extensive enlightenment campaign was carried out under the sponsorship of the government. The effects of this have subsided, since a new generation of young people and parents have emerged. A new campaign ought to be mounted as soon as possible.

9. In order to get at the narcotics trade itself, the production of heroin must be limited and in the long run stopped. Sweden ought to increase its activity partly to influence the producing countries, partly to prevail upon various international agencies, primarily the UN, to help and limit the production of narcotics.

10. The various measures which have been proposed must be coordinated. The responsibility for the measures ultimately rests with the government. A special agency is therefore needed as soon as possible, tied to the government by placement in one of the departments involved. This in order, among other things, to mark that the government has assumed the responsibility for carrying out the measures.

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JOINT NORDIC POLICY SUGGESTED TO COUNTER DRUG ABUSE

Stockholm NORDISK KONTAKT in Swedish 2 Mar 77 pp 185-187

[Article by Astrid Kristensson, member of Parliament]

[Text] In the Scandinavian countries in recent years, and particularly in Sweden, there has been intense debate concerning the policy on crime. Old values have been called into question. The old system of sanctions has been criticized. Explanations for the rapidly rising crime rate in all countries have been sought in faulty social planning, poor work environments, drab housing areas, the competitive society, capitalism, and many other circumstances. The conclusion reached in those discussions has often been that it is not the fault of the individual but of society if someone commits a crime. This in turn has led to a breakdown in standards, and it has been said that "since it is not my fault that I break the law, it is obvious that no one can demand that I observe the rules and standards established to govern the conduct of the citizens."

Young Offenders

In Sweden we are now beginning to see the consequences of that kind of reasoning. Parents have become uncertain as to how to bring up their children. The schools have also been hesitant about the purpose of their educational activity. It is the young people who are affected by this development. They lack the guidance that young people must have before they find their own "life rhythm."

In Sweden, youthful crime is the all-pervading problem in the matter of our policy on crime. One factor is that efforts to put young offenders back on the right track are usually delayed until it is too late--after things have already started to go seriously awry. A young boy or girl may commit 50 or even up to 100 more or less serious offenses before the authorities take any action other than sending pieces of paper to each other. When action is finally taken, it is generally so severe as to brand the young person for all time.

Systems involving some form of social work with young offenders as well as weekend confinement have been tried in some parts of the world. An interest

in such measures has also begun to spring up in Sweden. As I see it, it is necessary precisely in the case of young offenders to provide for the application of sanctions that are as varied as possible and adapted to the personal situation of the boy or girl concerned.

Drug Abuse

The rapid spread of drug abuse constitutes a very special worry, especially where heroin is involved. The police have come a long way in their efforts to develop effective international cooperation. Many international gangs have been tracked down and put out of action thanks to police work. Since the international drug traffic seems to be the most lucrative multinational business one can go into, new drug gangs spring up constantly.

Experience in Sweden leads to the conclusion that it is impossible to overcome the drug problem through police efforts alone. Parallel with police activity, there must also be a deliberate treatment policy. When it comes to a treatment policy, what exists--at least in Sweden--is an unmethodical and frequently amateurish approach to treatment which, in addition, is organized in such a way that there is no possibility of evaluating the treatment results in any reasonably scientific way. Somewhat drastically, one might venture to say that as far as treatment policy is concerned, we are no farther along today than we were 20 years ago, when the drug problem first began to attract serious attention.

Joint Nordic Action

Now at last, however--but still too slowly--a new type of thinking is beginning to appear, and in my opinion, there is good reason for the Scandinavian countries to try to establish a joint policy for dealing with drug addicts. We must realize that drug abuse is devastating for our countries. It causes so much human suffering and such great economic losses that vigorous joint Nordic action is as essential in tracking down offenses as it is in passport and customs control. In the same way, there is a need to work toward a joint policy on treatment.

Imprisonment Should Be Avoided Whenever Possible

As I pointed out by way of introduction, the question of sanctions has also been the subject of intense discussion in Sweden as well as in the rest of Scandinavia. Imprisonment has been called into question, and there has been an effort to replace it as far as possible with correctional care outside prison institutions. There is quite general political agreement in Sweden that sanctions involving loss of liberty should be avoided whenever possible. At the same time, most people also realize that imprisonment is a necessary evil in the case of individuals who engage in serious crime. What is needed, therefore, is a well-thought-out differentiation of sanctions and of clientele for correctional care.

In Sweden, Parliament has reached a decision along those lines: its decision says that individuals who engage in organized or systematic criminal activity and on whom social support measures cannot be expected to have any effect shall be treated in a more restrictive manner than what is called the "normal clientele." In practice, however, it has proven difficult to maintain a well-thought-out differentiation, and the result is that in our country there have been a number of sensational escapes or attempted escapes from the institutions.

More Realistic Noninstitutional Care

One prerequisite for limiting the use of sanctions involving loss of liberty is that noninstitutional care must be made more realistic so that it will really have the character of a sanction, but without leading to the harmful effects that unquestionably go along with the deprivation of liberty.

In our country a discussion is in progress concerning the punishment that should attach to various criminal acts. Many people have maintained that at present, crimes against individuals are dealt with too severely, while crimes against society draw penalties that are too mild. As a result, the previous government appointed a commission on so-called crimes against property, one of its objectives being to reduce the penalties for such crimes. After the change in government, however, that commission received additional instructions to the effect that it should be more impartial in its work and give special consideration to the importance of safeguarding the integrity and property of the individual.

Undesired Decriminalization of Shoplifting

A number of years ago a reform was undertaken in connection with the crime of shoplifting, and its result in practice has been an undesired decriminalization. Shoplifting has now become so generally accepted that many young people regard it as an almost lawful act to go into department stores and take merchandise of small value.

No one considers shoplifting a serious crime, but what is serious in the new situation is the consequent breakdown in standards. The distinction between "mine and yours," which used to be a generally accepted principle, has now begun to be seriously questioned.

Public Opinion Beginning To React

This brings me back to something I mentioned at the beginning of this article, and that is the matter of the educational role played by parents and the schools and of the building up of standards which must exist in any society governed by law. We in Sweden do not live in a society without standards, but if we do not try to correct our course in time, our society of law is going to be in the danger zone. At the same time, it should be pointed out that there are many signs indicating that public opinion has begun to react

in a healthy and wholesome way. As I see it, there is some justification for being optimistic about developments in the policy on crime in the near future.

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SWEDEN

CITY OF NORRKOPING CENTER FOR DRUG DISTRIBUTION

Stockholm EXPRESSEN in Swedish 27 Feb 77 p 10

[Article by Ingvar Hedlund: "Sweden's Newest Drug Center"]

[Text] Norrkoping--Sweden's newest drug center: Norrkoping.

In just a few months, the city has become a tremendous distribution center for narcotics.

A great deal of the drugs sold in Stockholm, the cities in the Malar valley and in Norrland comes from Norrkoping.

Commissioner Gote Engstrand -- head of the narcotics detective squad of the Norrkoping police -- says to the EXPRESSEN:

"The situation is now totally catastrophic. We are overloaded with work. I have never seen anything like it before."

Increasing amounts of narcotics are now smuggled into Sweden.

The number of drug victims -- above all these are teenagers -- is increasing dramatically.

Where do the drugs come from?

Why can smuggling not be stopped?

Police investigators are now beginning to see a pattern in the complicated organization which supplies Sweden, among other countries, with narcotics.

Has Emerged as Key Spot

In recent weeks, this investigation has shown that Norrkoping more and more emerges as the key spot in the distribution.

This is how it is done:

The narcotics -- heroin, amphetamines and cannabis -- are brought from the fields in Thailand, Laos, Burma to Amsterdam, which is the major distribution center for Europe.

The drugs which go from Amsterdam to Sweden were previously in general brought in through the large airports at Stockholm, Gothenburg and Malmo.

But customs control in these places has been tightened.

And the drug couriers found that it became too risky to continue the activity to the same extent as before.

Instead, they began to look for an airport at a smaller city, where customs and police control are not as efficient.

The choice was Norrkoping.



Increasing amounts of drugs are distributed from Norrkoping and out across Sweden. In the picture, police superintendent Hakan Thelin and police commissioner Gote Engstrand with cannabis cakes confiscated by police.

We Are Only 10 People

Criminal commissioner Gote Engstrand is the head of the narcotics police in Norrkoping. He says to the *EXPRESSEN*:

"We are only 10 people in Norrköping, who have to find time for all the investigations and all the searching. Therefore we can uncover only a small fraction of the rapidly increasing smuggling of narcotics through the airport here. We only discover the tip of the iceberg. Most of it is smuggled in here without our having a chance to intervene."

Here is the list of the largest confiscations of the Norrköping police, since January of last year alone:

1. A large Hercules plane from Pakistan lands at the Norrköping airport.

On board are 20 highly placed Pakistani officers who after landing are going to continue to Saab in Linköping in order to purchase spare parts.

The police in Norrköping get a tip that the plane contains drugs. The customs people make an extensive search.

The result:

Two suitcases filled with cannabis are found concealed in the plane. The narcotics were probably intended for sale in Sweden.

One of the officers was detained in Sweden and was sentenced to 4 years in prison. He has since been pardoned for medical reasons.

2. A mysterious suitcase is found standing in the passenger hall at the airport in Norrköping. No owner comes forward. The police opens the suitcase. Contents:

13.7 kilograms of heroin, the incomparably most dangerous drug preparation.

The finding of the suitcase is the largest single heroin confiscation in all of Europe.

The investigation is still going on.

3. A man and a woman are seized at the Norrköping airport after a tip from Interpol. The couple comes from Amsterdam.

The woman has a condom in her vagina with 28 grams of heroin. The man has three condoms in his stomach with 28 grams of heroin each.

A trial was held and they are expected in March.

Able To Break Up the Heroin Gang

4. The seizure of the couple from Amsterdam meant that the police was able to break up the so-called heroin gang. Seven persons more were quickly caught. They have all had contacts with the couple. Some of them are couriers, others are buyers.

Some of them have already been sentenced for grave narcotics crimes.

5. A Canadian citizen tries to buy a ticket in Copenhagen for the Norrkoping plane. But the aircraft is full and the man takes the train instead.

The police gets a tip that he is a drug courier. He is seized at the Helsingborg station. In his stomach a physician finds 12 condoms filled with cannabis oil.

The man was indicted Friday in Norrkoping.

This is -- as was said -- only the tip of the iceberg.

Commissioner Gote Engstrand:

"Part of the narcotics is sold directly here in Norrkoping. The result has become a catastrophic increase of drug addiction here in town. Since 1 January this year alone, 51 persons in the city of Norrkoping have confessed to a total of 620 narcotics crimes. I know that these figures sound totally unbelievable when it is a matter of a small city and only 2 months, but it is actually the terrible truth.

Inadequate Resources

Sven Hagerstrom, control chief at the customs in Norrkoping, says to the EXPRESSEN:

"We have three men who check the passengers arriving with the Copenhagen planes. These resources are insufficient. We do not have a chance to efficiently combat the drug traffic with this small force. In April we get a narcotics-trained dog and then it will perhaps get a little better."

"I agree that Norrkoping has become something of a distribution center for narcotics, which are then sold in large parts of Sweden."

Drugs are now openly sold in Norrkoping, for example on Drottninggatan, which is the city's main street.

The current price of one capsule of amphetamine -- which contains 0.2 grams -- was 65 Swedish crowns last night in Norrkoping.

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SWEDEN

FRG DRUG DEALER'S OPERATIONS, DISTRIBUTION DESCRIBED

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 5 Mar 77 p 3

[Article by Leif Dahlin: "Police Found Drugs for 6 Million Crowns"]

[Text] Escaped drug king Karl Paucksch is back in full swing with his narcotics trade in Sweden. Paucksch and a Swedish woman about 35 years old are now being hunted by a large number of policemen in western and eastern Sweden. The police has traced the flight of the couple from a boarding-house in Nol outside Trollhattan.

On Tuesday, about 20 narcotics detectives went to Vastergotland and several roads were patrolled. At about 1730 hours the same day, a Volvo passenger car on Route 45 immediately south of Trollhattan was stopped. There were suspicions that Paucksch was in the car and that his bodyguards were there. All security precautions were taken. The men were ordered out of the car with their arms over their heads. But there was no Paucksch in the car.

Instead, the detectives found two well-known major dealers and in the back seat of their car stood a carton with 25 kilograms of amphetamine at a black market price of 6 million Swedish crowns. The men who have been paroled for 4 years and are suspected of extensive dealing in narcotics were brought to the police headquarters in Stockholm.

In spite of the grave evidence the men have not wanted to comment on the drug shipment. They do not make any statements at all, which is getting to be increasingly common in such connections. After a quick analysis of the narcotics, the State Criminal Technical Laboratory in Linkoping reported that the amphetamine was very high grade and, according to what the DAGENS NYHETER has heard, the quality is exactly the same as that of the shipment of 19 kilograms which was confiscated by Danish customs at Rodbyhavn from a Swedish courier some time ago. With great probability these shipments originate from the same laboratory in Holland. The leader of the Dutch syndicate is one of Paucksch's best partners.

The Escape Route

Immediately after the confiscation, the police was able to trace the escape route of Karl Paucksch and his companion by means of tips and through

investigations of its own. The police rapidly succeeded in tracking down a boardinghouse between Nol and Alvangen. Paucksch had registered under a false name. On arrival at the boardinghouse he was lightly disguised. On Tuesday, the couple took a taxi via Trollhattan to Lidkoping, where they spent the night. From there they continued on Wednesday by train to Laxa, then by car to Hallsberg, car to Motala and by train to Mjolby. After questioning taxi drivers, boardinghouse staff and SJ [State Railways] personnel there is now no doubt that it was Paucksch they had been confronted with. According to information, he is said to have behaved restlessly at times. The latest information is that the couple should have bought one-way tickets for a train to Malmo.

Not far from that place, national police detectives on Tuesday made one of the largest amphetamine confiscations ever. 25 kilograms of vacuum-packed amphetamine powder was found with two major dealers in a car on the way to Stockholm.

Karl Paucksch, without comparison the largest and most dangerous drug distributor in Sweden at the end of the sixties and the beginning of the seventies, shortly before Christmas escaped from the Norrkoping facility in connection with a leave. The escape which had been planned in detail was preceded by Paucksch throwing pepper in the faces of his guards during a visit to the Domus department store.

Paucksch disappeared without a trace. The police has never quite believed that Paucksch would escape to Holland or West Germany. According to the chief of the national police narcotics commission, commissioner Stig Norman, Paucksch had considerably greater opportunities to arrange good cover for himself in Sweden, where he has many friends. Suspicions which have now been confirmed.

Several Tips

When police recently got more and more tips that Paucksch had been seen in various parts of Sweden and information that he had again started dealing in narcotics, people in the police found this to be extremely arrogant. They therefore decided on a thorough search effort in the Trollhattan region, from where the hottest tips had come.

The police still do not believe that Paucksch has tried to leave the country. In the Malmo area he has long-time close friends, who have been dependent on him or are now prepared to protect him against large payments. Both police and customs at southern Swedish ports have increased their guard in case Paucksch should still try to catch a ferry across the Sound.

Drugs in Plastic

The amphetamine which was confiscated is vacuum-packed in plastic bags of about one-half kilograms each. The bags are heat-sealed, which means that the gang has had access to a heat-sealing machine either here or abroad. The idea behind the vacuum-packing is that the shipment becomes half as

bulky when it is to be smuggled. According to information, it is Paucksch's companion who spoke for Paucksch at the hotels. She ordered the cabs and bought the train tickets.

How, then, is it that Karl Paucksch surprises the police and starts all over again? The reasons can be many, but the plausible one is that it is a matter of such large profits that he dismisses a potential increase of the old sentence with a kick of the heel. He knows that he has great prospects of buying himself off.

Background: DN

West German drug king Karl Paucksch, 38, operated out of Holland at the end of the sixties under protection of the very liberal narcotics laws. When Paucksch, who was previously sentenced for narcotics crimes in Sweden, speeded up the smuggling of amphetamines, the Swedish authorities also increased pressure on the Dutch and demanded that the man should be stopped and extradited.

The Dutch finally agreed to the request and the extradition of Paucksch attracted great attention. Paucksch, whose Swedish defense attorney long maintained that Paucksch was innocent, that the wrong man had been caught, was in spite of that sentenced in 1973 to the stiffest possible punishment under then valid law, 8 years in prison.

Paucksch became the most watched-over prisoner in Sweden at the Kumla facility. Somewhat later he was moved to the Norrkoping facility. He planned his escape patiently and cleverly. Last year, Paucksch was allowed a number of accompanied leaves, and the purpose of those was to train him for readjustment into society in accordance with the Swedish criminal law. Paucksch behaved in an exemplary fashion during his leaves; they often followed the same routines, something which Paucksch engraved into his memory.

The well-behaved Paucksch was allowed to receive more and more visits. Only a few weeks before he staged the famous pepper escape on the parking deck of the Domus department store in Norrkoping on 16 December, he had a visit from some Dutch women. They were sent by Paucksch's Dutch partner. The women were then told all about the routines on his last leave and after the pepper coup against the guards his retreat was secured.

On 22 December, Moderate member of Parliament Astrid Kristensson received a typed letter from Karl Paucksch.

In the letter, which was postmarked in Hamburg, he wrote, among other things, that he was prepared to return and serve the remainder of his sentence if he were guaranteed treatment for his tuberculosis illness. However, a relocation was not being considered and as time went by the interest in Karl Paucksch decreased.

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GOVERNMENT MEASURES AGAINST DRUG DISTRIBUTION EXAMINED

Hard Drug Use Is Surveyed

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 18 Mar 77 p 11

Text The use of hard drugs is to be surveyed by Supreme Court Judge Boret Palm, according to a government decision Thursday. The study is to provide a basis regarding treatment efforts for established addicts. Next week, another group of narcotics preventers will be appointed at the highest level.

When Social Minister Rune Gustavsson recently appointed a panel to study prostitution, the now appointed narcotics panel was also decided on. The two study panels are to maintain contact with one another in order for the connection between narcotics use and prostitution to become clear.

Young People Are Studied

The narcotics study appointed Thursday will primarily give a thorough description of the extent of hard addiction. The spread of various narcotics in the country and the magnitude of addiction in the various parts of the country are to be investigated. The youth groups, above all, ought to be studied, it says in Rune Gustavsson's directives to sole investigator Boret Palm, a newly appointed supreme court judge and former department head in the Communications Department.

On Thursday of next week the leading group, on which the DAGENS NYHETER has previously reported, will be appointed. That group will coordinate all the various narcotics prevention efforts which can be made and will consist of the general directors of the affected central authorities, the national police council, the national school board, the criminal care board and representatives of the municipal district associations and the health care.

Prison Control

Chairman of the group may become State Secretary in the Social Department Gerhard Larsson. His colleague at the Department of Justice Henrik Montgomery also participates in this group, which among other things can be expected to recommend stricter narcotics control in the prisons.

This future leading group is closely connected to the government in an advisory capacity. One of the preparation groups which is to do the investigative work for the leading group will be the narcotics group of the Crime Prevention Council, another the now appointed study panel which will survey the use of hard drugs.

Stricter Measures Against Drugs

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 18 Mar p 26

[Text] The level of ambition of the Department of Customs regarding narcotics prevention is to be increased considerably. Since there is reason to believe that amounts of narcotics arrive in the country with legal freight which is sent directly or in transit, the control of cargo is to become more frequent. This concerns primarily freight from the Far East. By redistribution of present personnel resources, particularly exposed customs districts in the southern region are to receive reinforcements.

These and a number of other measures for stopping the wave of drugs into Sweden were discussed at a top meeting in the Department of Customs in Stockholm on Wednesday. Participating in the discussions were General Customs Director Lennart Eriksson, department chief Gunnar Wide, the creators of the action program, and all of the regional directors.

"Narcotics smuggling from the Far East to Europe has increase so heavily in the last year that in many places people are seriously worried about the development," says department chief Wide.

"Since this summer, several large heroin shipments have been intercepted in connection with control of legal freight shipments. Thus, last year 70 kilograms of heroin were found in a shipment from the Far East to Bremen. Not long ago, 125 kilograms of heroin were found smuggled in conjunction with legal goods to Rotterdam and in England the customs have discovered large amounts of heroin on several occasions.

Smuggled In

There is good reason to believe that heroin is smuggled into Sweden in a similar manner, and therefore we will devote greater attention to legal cargo in the future. The ways of smuggling are often very sophisticated and difficult to reveal. We indeed remember how a shipment of heroin arrived at the Kungsängen airport last year: the narcotics were packed in food cans, and not long ago a shipment of 200 kilograms of cannabis was found in wafer cans at Arlanda. In that case it was the fine "scenting ability" of one of our dogs which indicated it. We have, by the way, 18 Labrador dogs in the service of the Department of Customs and will hopefully get the funds to purchase a few more specially trained dogs.

It was previously Europeans who took care of the smuggling traffic within Europe; now Asians have taken over and they are not as easy to understand

because of ethnic loyalties, language barriers and the circumstance that they are always on the move. When it is a matter of the increasing heroin smuggling, we have thus been faced with an entirely new pattern of behavior which requires increased attention for the passenger traffic across the borders.

In 1967, 68 kilograms of heroin were confiscated in all of Europe; since then, the confiscated amounts have varied somewhat. Then last year the really large catches came, a total of 650 kilograms of heroin, and in view of the relatively low detection ratio of the customs and police there are thus enormous amounts of heroin that are presently brought into the European market.

Even if police and customs exert themselves to stop the wave of drugs, the fight against it will still remain an empty gesture as long as the demand exists and the treatment problems are not solved, department chief Wide says.

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MAGISTRATES' POWER TO IMPRISON FOR CANNABIS POSSESSION STUDIED

London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 20 Apr 77 p 10

[Text] A Government promise to reconsider whether or not magistrates should keep their power to imprison those convicted of a first offence for possessing cannabis was given by Lord Harris of Greenwich in the Lords yesterday.

Lord Harris, Minister of State, Home Office, opposed a renewed attempt by Lord Avebury, (Lib.) to take away this magisterial power during third reading debate on the Criminal Law Bill.

He conceded that Lord Avebury and other backers of the change had gone far to remove objections which he had voiced in earlier discussion on the Bill, but the proposed amendments remained unsatisfactory because of penalties relating to the possession of other drugs.

'One-Way Street'

Lord Hailsham of St. Marylebone, Opposition legal spokesman, said that in his view imprisonment should be a last resort.

Peers had to face the fact that Parliament might some day conclude that the use of cannabis should be treated like alcohol and tobacco and that people should not be penalised except for trafficking.

But every step towards accepting this drug was a one-way street. "We can never go back along it and never retrace our steps if we make an error."

He believed cannabis had led many a young person down the street leading to the use of more serious drugs such as LSD and heroin. If he was right then it was a very serious delusion indeed to go soft on cannabis offences.

Lord Avebury said that if Parliament was to make progress in reducing the size of the prison population minor offences like the possession of cannabis, which many people no longer saw as critical, would have to be treated differently.

In withdrawing the amendment he hoped the commons would complete what he had sought to do.

The third reading was concluded and the Bill was passed.

CSO: 5320

UNITED KINGDOM

TRIAL OF NINE FOR DRUG TRAFFICKING

London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 20 Apr 77 p 17

[Text] Dirty, smelly men from the streets would give evidence in a heroin racket trial, an Old Bailey jury was told yesterday. But under the filthy clothes were members of Scotland Yard's Drugs Squad, said Mr Michael Hill, prosecuting.

They had smashed Chinese heroin racket in Soho and Liverpool by appearing as though they belonged on the street.

Some would come to court in that state, having just left "work," though no doubt they would have washed.

Mr Hill was opening the case against nine alleged drug traffickers. He said Chinese heroin, a Class A controlled drug, was smuggled into Britain from South-East Asia.

He said it was big business worth many thousands of pounds. And because of the huge risks and heavy penalties involved, its operators reaped fat rewards.

The object was to use a shellfish import business between London and Malaysia as a camouflage.

A basement club in Gerard Street, Soho, was the nerve centre.

The charges involved the possession and supply of drugs involving over 2,000 grammes of granules containing measurable quantities of diamorphine. In general terms, this was just under 5 lb, capable of providing something like 60,000 to 70,000 "fixes" by injection.

The trial was adjourned until today.

CSO: 5320

'SCANDAL' FEAR SAVES SON OF NIGERIAN CHIEFTAIN FROM JAIL

London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 23 Apr 77 p 3

[Text] The 28-year-old son of a Nigerian chieftain smuggled cannabis worth 2,500 pounds into Britain in a suitcase, a court heard yesterday. The chieftain was said to be "an administrator at the highest level in his country."

Akubundu Agugua, a student at Aston University, Birmingham, was given a two-year suspended prison sentence after Reading Crown Court was told that jailing him would cause a scandal which would place his future and that of his family "in grave jeopardy."

Agugua, of Crompton Road Birmingham, admitted evading the prohibition on 2,180 grammes of cannabis at Heathrow Airport on January 18 as he returned from Christmas holiday in Nigeria.

Miss Elizabeth Curnow, prosecuting, told the court that when questioned by Customs officers, Agugua said that he would probably sell the drug but did not know for how much.

Mr Timothy Raggatt, defending, said Agugua was studying quantity surveying but was currently doing practical work with a City of London firm and hoped to become a partner in its Lagos headquarters when his studies were complete.

Uncle a Diplomat

He handed Mr Justice Chapman letters from Agugua's father, the University and from the firm.

He said: "Your Lordship will see from the content of the letter that this young man's father is a man of considerable stature and importance in Nigeria which explains why I am unwilling to bandy his name around in open court.

"His father is, as you have seen in this letter, an administrator at the highest level in his country and one of his uncles is engaged in the Diplomatic Service in Nigeria, also at the highest level.

"Mr Agugua has been unable to tell his father about the exact circumstances and possible consequences of this case for the reason that the scandal this will cause for his family and for Mr Agugua is too frightening to contemplate.

"Merely by being here, he has placed himself, his family and his future in grave jeopardy."

Mr Raggatt said the cannabis was bought for Agugua as a present by his girlfriend in Nigeria and he intended to smoke it himself and give it to his friends.

Mr Justice Chapman said the offence was "extremely serious" and would normally carry a "substantial" prison sentence. But he said an immediate prison sentence would mean "total and complete ruin and disgrace for you among your friends and your family. In the circumstances, I can extend mercy to you."

CSO: 5320

UNITED KINGDOM

DRUG SMUGGLER SENTENCED TO 9 YEARS

London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 26 Apr 77 p 17

[Text] Ronald Rees, 33, an importer, was jailed for nine years yesterday for running the English end of a massive cannabis smuggling plot.

Rees, of Brynmill, Swansea, was convicted at Gloucester Crown Court of illegally importing over 4 cwt of cannabis, worth 250,000 pounds. The drug was found in a secret compartment in a ship-to-shore container full of melons from Turkey.

Rees, whose importing company hired the container, claimed he knew nothing about the cannabis, and thought the secret compartment contained gold from Lebanon. But Customs men were led to the cache by a witness who noticed that a "paint job" had been done on the container.

Two other men, a London company director and a Turkish hotelier, were cleared of being involved. A Turkish food exporter, about whom the jury could not agree, was also released.

CSO: 5320

END